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By defacing one of the world's most treasured heritage sites

Just Stop Oil have shown how pathetic they truly are...we say:

JUST LOCK THEM UP!

By **Steph Spyro** and **Christian Calgie**

PATHETIC eco-zealots should face "the full force of the law" after Stonehenge was attacked in what Rishi Sunak deplored as a "disgraceful act of vandalism".

Two Just Stop Oil protesters were arrested after spraying the 5,000-year-old monument with orange powder paint – an action universally condemned as "outrageous desecration".

Rajan Naidu, 73, and Niamh Lynch, 21, wore JSO-branded tops as they released clouds of orange on to the

TURN TO PAGE 4

Pictures: TIM MERRY, GETTY, PA, BEN STEVENS

Wills is in the lead as royals gallop to Ascot

By **Emily Ferguson**
Royal Editor

AND they're orf...or should that be on? Fancy hats were definitely a Firm favourite yesterday when the Royal Family enjoyed a day at the races.

The Prince of Wales went for a traditional top hat and the Queen headed the field in a wide-brimmed, blue titfer as they led the royal procession on Day Two of Royal Ascot.

And while the Princess of Wales and the King were missing, William and Camilla got plenty of support as their royal relatives turned out in force to watch the horses.

Princess Anne was spotted with daughter Zara and her husband, former rugby star Mike Tindall.

Zara, in a pale pink fascinator, greeted members of her family with her trademark hug, a joke and a laugh, while Mike was seen embracing Prince Edward, who was at the event with wife Sophie, Duchess of Edinburgh, on their 25th wedding anniversary.

As the royals entered the parade ring, William took a shine to a large tassel on his cousin Eugenie's hat and shared a joke with the princess and her sister Beatrice.

And as the family made their way to the royal box to cheer on their favourites, Beatrice and Eugenie were seen sipping the classic summer tipple Pimm's.

Their mother, Sarah, Duchess of York, *right*, was also at the Berkshire racecourse.

Prince William's in-laws, Carole and Michael Middleton, were invited too.

The couple made what is believed to be their first appearance at a major event since daughter Kate announced in March she had begun chemotherapy following a cancer diagnosis.

The Princess, who was at Trooping the Colour on Saturday, to the delight of cheering crowds, said last week she was making "good progress" but admitted she has "good days and bad days".

Meanwhile, King Charles, who is also being treated for cancer, was busy working in London and met the President of Zambia, Hakainde Hichilema, at Buckingham Palace.

Other guests of the royals at Ascot yesterday included Lord Lloyd-Webber, who was made a Knight Companion of the Order of the Garter during a ceremony at Windsor Castle on Monday.

The composer, whose hit musicals include The Phantom of the Opera, Cats and Jesus Christ Superstar, was joined by his horsewoman wife Madeleine Gurdon.

Away from the royal box, actress Elizabeth Hurley posed for the cameras in a white lace dress teamed with a fascinator shaped like a basket.

Lots of race fans were also determined to jockey for position in the fashion stakes – by getting dressed up in outfits in every colour of the rainbow.

But other punters at the posh do grabbed the opportunity to enjoy the sunshine between races and some even sat down to picnics at proper dining tables.

OPINION: PAGE 12

Racing colours... fashionable punters in yellow, green and red. Left, a posh picnic

Star attractions...Lord Lloyd-Webber and, far left, Liz Hurley

MISS OUT BUT...

Hat's the way to do it... Prince William and, above inset, the Middletons. Right, Mike and Zara Tindall. Below, Princess Eugenie and Queen Camilla

Defiant...protester Rajan Naidu

Rebel without a pause vow

By **Giles Sheldrick**

RAJAN Naidu is a serial demonstrator who was jailed for breaching an anti-protest injunction for a third time.

The Birmingham pensioner was imprisoned for 34 days in 2022 for his part in action against Warwickshire's Kingsbury Oil Terminal. He was freed after 17 days.

Despite his time inside, he has pledged to continue a campaign of "non-violent civil resistance" (NCR) against fossil fuels with "fellow rebels" from Just Stop Oil.

He said: "We take up NCR because, after decades of protest, rallies, marches, petitions, letters and phone calls lobbying politicians and corporations, there is still no effective democratic pathway that allows us, the great majority, to take back decision-making and policy-making powers."

His fellow "rebel" arrested for desecrating Stonehenge, is 21-year-old Oxford University geography student Niamh Lynch.

She said of Stonehenge: "Standing inert for generations works well for stones – not climate policy."

'Rich garden'... megalith surface

Powder a risk to rare lichen

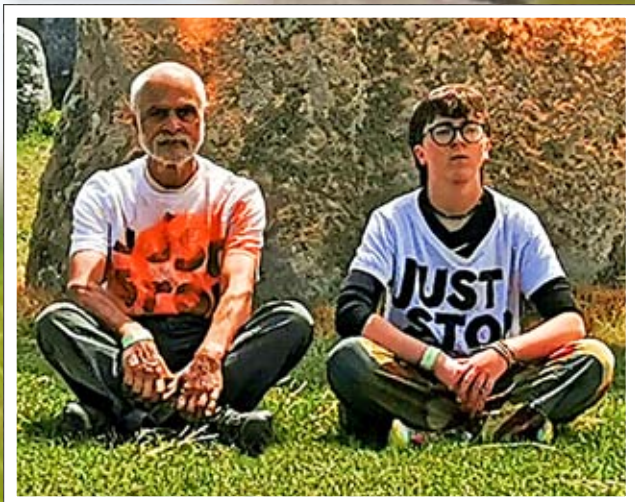
By **Steph Spyro**

RARE lichens growing on the surface of the ancient stones may have been harmed in the powder protest, experts fear.

Archeologist and author Mike Pitts said: "A rich garden of life has grown on the megaliths, an exceptional lichen garden. So it's potentially quite concerning."

Furious tour guide Sean Moran, 64, hit out at the hypocrisy of the protesters – who claim to care about the environment, but may have put more than 70 species of lichen found growing at the ancient site at risk.

He said: "Biologists from around the world study it. Did they think of that?"

Pictures: SOLENT NEWS AND PA

Under attack... orange powder is sprayed on Stonehenge yesterday; left from top, Naidu is arrested; orange stains on stones; sit-down protest

'An idiotic assault'

FROM PAGE ONE

huge stones just 24 hours before thousands flock to the Neolithic landmark to celebrate the longest day of the year.

Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer described social justice campaigner Naidu and Oxford geography student Lynch as "pathetic". Reform's Nigel Farage and Lib Dem chief Sir Ed Davey called for the pair to "face the full force of the law".

Home Secretary James Cleverly condemned an "idiotic assault on the fabric of our nation",

Danny Kruger, Tory candidate for the East Wiltshire seat which includes the stone circle, said: "[This is an] outrageous action by climate extremists who desecrate our most iconic national monument. I expect them to be punished to the maximum extent possible in law – and for stronger penalties against stunt protesters in future. Just lock them up."

Visitors tried to drag protesters away from the Unesco World Heritage Site after they attacked the standing stones near Salisbury, Wilts, at midday yesterday.

Pledges

After letting off canisters of orange powder, the two sat cross-legged in front of the menhirs.

JSO is demanding the next Government pledges to work with other nations to agree a plan to end the extraction and burning of oil, gas and coal by 2030.

Wiltshire Police yesterday said they arrested two people on suspicion of damaging the stones. As officers led the pair away, a man who said he was a druid shouted: "You dirty scum. This is a temple, not a publicity stunt!"

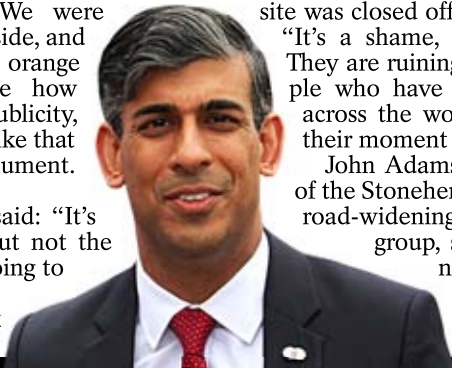
Paul Anderson, 59, and his wife Elaine, 55, were down from Newcastle on holiday at the site. He said: "We were around the other side, and we saw a lot of orange mist. I can't see how that's good publicity, doing something like that to an ancient monument. It beggars belief."

Mrs Anderson said: "It's ruined the day, but not the holiday. I'm not going to let them – how dare you? There was a lot of shouting from me."

Two of yesterday's visitors had travelled 5,000 miles from the US west coast to see Stonehenge. As a result of the protests Mike and Julie, who did not want to give their surname, had to look on from afar after the path through the site was closed off. Mike said: "It's a shame, it really is. They are ruining it for people who have come from across the world to have their moment and see it."

John Adams, chairman of the Stonehenge Alliance road-widening protest group, said it does not condone actions with the

Shame...Mr Sunak

on fabric of our nation'

COMMENT
JAMES CLEVERLY
Home Secretary

WHAT does spray-painting a treasured monument that pre-dates the internal combustion engine by roughly 5,000 years have to do with climate change?

With each reckless and idiotic assault on the fabric of our nation, they show their true colours. They are like toddlers who stamp their feet and lash out when they don't get their way.

But it is getting more extreme to try and shock people into submission.

We will just not tolerate it. Their violent tactics will not work. We have passed tougher laws on protest, specifically designed to tackle their techniques.

We have shown we will not be cowed into submission by these hemp-wearing hoodlums by strengthening our approach to counter extremism.

And we have made sure that environmental measures are reasonable and do not cost hard-working families the earth. We will not change course in the face of adversity.

Jellyfish

We are the party of common sense and reason. We are the only ones holding back the rising tide of extremism.

However, events like yesterday underline the risks of a Labour Government led by a spineless jellyfish.

We know that Keir Starmer is in hock to hardline left-wing activists. We know that he cannot stick with anything and won't stick up for the sensible majority against a vocal and aggressive minority.

And we also know he has no plan to protect hard-working families from the cost of ideological eco policies.

Knowing all of this, would you trust him to take tough decisions and stand up to these eco vandals?

Just Stop Oil's influence will creep into this country's energy and protest policy if Starmer gets the keys to Number 10.

Only the Conservatives can be trusted to stand up to these extremists. If you vote for Labour, you will get them into Downing Street by the back door come July 4.

potential to damage the stones: "We exist to protect the World Heritage Site from harm, including the Government's current road building proposals which have been condemned by Unesco. It's particularly sad that this should happen on the eve of the summer solstice when hundreds of people visit Stonehenge to celebrate its majesty and solar alignment.

"Just Stop Oil is not part of the Stonehenge Alliance and, whilst we share their concerns about the climate crisis, we don't support direct action at Stonehenge."

In reference to eco-entrepreneur Dale Vince, the PM said: "Just Stop Oil should be ashamed of their activists...they and anyone associated with them, including a certain Labour Party donor, should issue a condemnation of this shameful act immediately." Mr Vince's Ecotricity firm gave Labour £1.5million, according to Electoral Commission data for the first quarter of 2024, and reportedly gave £1million a day after the General Election was called.

Poverty

Mr Vince has backed JSO but in October said he would now fund bids to increase voter registration.

He said he did not support yesterday's protest, adding: "Since Rishi Sunak has asked me personally to comment, I will. I don't support what JSO did today, it's that simple.

"But there are far worse actions we could focus on, far more harmful ones – like pushing two million children and their families into poverty. One in three of our children now live in poverty. That's my definition of a shameful act."

The summer solstice will be celebrated at Stonehenge as usual today – 8,000 people gathered to mark the longest day in 2023 and similar numbers are expected as it is celebrated from 7pm tonight until 8am tomorrow.

Senior druid King Arthur Pendragon hit out at the protest.

The local independent Parliamentary candidate said: "Stonehenge is a living working temple at times of celebration and pilgrimage such as the summer solstice and, as a well-known protester myself, I totally disapprove of such behaviour as demonstrated by these people who do nothing to enhance and everything to alienate any sympathy anyone has."

The 70-year-old pagan priest has been involved in several protests there. He also lost a legal challenge over a £15 car parking charge there in 2017, claiming it breached his human rights.

JSO said: "We have to come together to defend humanity or we risk everything. That's why Just Stop Oil is demanding that our next Government sign up to a legally-binding treaty to phase out fossil fuels by 2030."

English Heritage, which manages the Crown-owned site, said the damage was being investigated but Stonehenge remains open.

OPINION: PAGE 12

Quizzed...Sir Keir and shadow chancellor Rachel Reeves in Swindon yesterday

First-time buyers face £6k Labour tax bill, say Tories

By **Sam Lister**

FIRST-TIME buyers will be stung with a tax bill of up to £6,250 under Labour, the Tories warn.

New help-to-buy plans and stamp duty reforms have been included in the Conservative manifesto – but Labour is not matching the pledges.

This leaves prospective homeowners facing higher upfront costs.

An increase in the amount first-time buyers can spend on a property before having to pay stamp duty would be extended if the Tories return to power.

The figure was raised from £300,000 to £425,000 two years ago but is currently due to flip back in 2025.

Labour would allow the threshold to return to £300,000 in April, meaning around 200,000 house buyers will be hit with an average tax increase of £3,500.

A home worth £325,000 would bring a bill of £1,250, while those buying at the top end of £425,000 would pay £6,250 more. Housing Secretary Michael Gove said: "Labour's unfunded spending commitments mean they will raise taxes for every working household by £2,094.

"That includes hammering hundreds of thousands of first-time buyers with a massive stamp duty increase from next April, as well as plans to hit people's savings with a suite of taxes that will erode the money saved for a deposit. That's the choice at this election – between the Conservatives who will cut taxes and help you get the keys to your first home and Labour who will lock a generation of families out of homeownership and takes us back to square one."

Labour said: "Jeremy Hunt has admitted the Conservatives' tax cuts are completely unfunded, which will risk putting mortgages up again by £4,800.

"Homeownership has become a pipe dream for most working families. Rishi Sunak has himself admitted it has become 'harder' to own under his Government. We'll get Britain building and help working families on to the housing ladder with first dibs for first-time buyers and a new Freedom to Buy mortgage guarantee."

Sir Keir insists that he is just a 'working person'

By **Michael Knowles**

SIR Keir Starmer insists Labour will not raise taxes on "working people", but has faced questions about what that means in practice.

He told the Daily Express: "I'm a working person. I come within my own definition, which is earning my living, paying my taxes and knowing what it means to save money, and when you do save money, not wanting to use that money to get out of a cost-of-living crisis which is of the Government's making."

On Tuesday, he described working people as those who cannot "write a cheque when they get into trouble" when answering questions on LBC.

It prompted the Tories to suggest Labour could raise taxes on savers. Sir Keir said: "The response of the Tories to this shows just how out of touch they are, of course people have savings."

Labour says it will not increase income tax, national insurance or VAT, and will end private school exemptions from VAT.

It also wants to close tax loopholes for high-earning non-domiciled residents to provide cash for other public services.

Candidate axed over Salisbury poisoning post

By **Martyn Brown**

A LABOUR candidate has been suspended for posting pro-Russian material online in the aftermath of the Salisbury poisonings.

Andy Brown shared a Russian state media article in 2018 which claimed the "toxin" used to poison five people in the UK that year – killing one of them – was "never produced in Russia" but was used "in the US, UK and other Nato states".

Scottish Labour leader Anas Sarwar said his party took "swift action" to suspend the candidate for Aberdeenshire North and Moray East pending an investigation. And Labour's shadow chancellor Rachel Reeves told Sky News she was "very, very pleased" he had been dropped.

Mr Brown will still appear on the ballot paper on July 4 as the deadline for nominations has passed, but he will not be backed by Labour.

WARNING OVER 'SOFT

Channel in glee' if

By **Sam Lister** Political Editor

PEOPLE smugglers will be "rubbing their hands with glee" if Sir Keir Starmer wins the General Election, the Home Secretary has warned.

James Cleverly said the criminal gangs trafficking migrants across the Channel will use the end of the Rwanda plan as a selling tactic around the world.

The Tories have promised that the first deportation flight to Kigali will leave on July 24 – if they hang on to power.

Mr Cleverly said: "People smugglers are vile and criminal, but they're not stupid.

"They market their criminal services via social media and they change their tactics in response to the UK Government's actions.

"A Labour Government led by a man with a history of being weak on immigration and the scrapping of the Rwanda scheme will be used as a selling point around the world.

Warning...Rishi Sunak yesterday

Labour's immigration plan is just a rebranding of existing Home Office teams, and the scrapping of our key deterrent.

"The smugglers will be rubbing their hands with glee if Labour win this election."

Small boat crossings hit a record high on Tuesday after 882 migrants entered the UK from France in a single day.

It takes the total number of arrivals so far this year to 12,313.

Sir Keir has said he would set up a border security command "straight away" to tackle the problem if he wins power.

But he is committed to ending PM Rishi Sunak's Rwanda scheme, put into law shortly before the election. Mr Sunak said: "Keir Starmer wants to make us the soft touch of Europe when it comes to migration."

The Labour leader said: "We would be able to set up this command straight away, as one of the first steps in Government. I want people to have that image of an incoming Labour Government, sleeves rolled up, getting on with the job from day one.

"The Rwanda scheme is a gimmick, we will cancel that, stop wasting money on that."

With just two weeks to go until election day, three opinion polls have put Labour way ahead of the Conservatives. An average of all polls carried out in the past seven days had Sir Keir's party on 42%, the Tories on 21%, Reform on

Picture: STEVE FINN, STEFAN ROUSSEAU/PA

Channel crisis... suspected migrants are brought into Dover on Tuesday

gangs 'will rub hands Starmer gains power

ARE SMUGGLERS USING HAZARDOUS NEW ROUTE ACROSS NORTH SEA?

By **Michael Knowles**
Home Affairs Editor

MIGRANTS are taking longer, more dangerous routes from France to reach the UK, experts say.

Border Force officers warn smuggling gangs have spread out from Dunkirk to Le Touquet on the French coast.

But the discovery of a migrant dinghy near the point where the Channel becomes the North Sea will reignite fears of criminals launching boats over vast distances.

It was rescued at around 10.30am on Tuesday, the Express understands.

Boats launching from the Dunkirk region would, if not intercepted, usually arrive near Dover or Deal in Kent. But this boat was found further north.

Some 882 migrants arrived in the UK after crossing on Tuesday – a daily record for the year.

The Home Office said just 15 boats were used, suggesting an average of 59 people per vessel.

The latest crossings take the provisional total for the number of arrivals so far this year to 12,313.

This is 18% higher than this time last year.

The Prime Minister insists the Conservatives "can make a difference".

Asked why people should believe he is the right person to tackle the crisis in light of the latest figures, Rishi Sunak told broadcasters in East Anglia: "There is always going to be days which are worse than others, but the choice at this election is about how do we solve this problem for good.

"I have got a plan to do that and that is about getting a deterrent up and running, removing the incentive for people to come here."

Some 29,437 migrants arrived in the UK last year, down 36% on a record 45,774 arrivals in 2022.

The boats, often around eight metres long, are close to breaking within moments of leaving the French coastline.

Engines used to power the dinghies are so flimsy they cannot push the vessels through the water, increasing the risk of them sinking – and burning the little fuel that they have.

The Daily Express heard examples of migrants rescued off the French coast after effectively going round in circles for hours as the boat is not able to break through the water.

> **'Some 882 arrived in UK – a daily record for the year'**

Sources fear a vessel will one day drift out into the North Sea or into an even wider section of the Channel, for example between Le Havre and Portsmouth.

Some 2,431 arrivals have been recorded since the General Election was called on May 22, with immigration a key campaign battleground.

Some 81,677 people have made the journey since the Government struck the stalled deal to send migrants to Rwanda in April 2022.

The tally of crossings since Mr Sunak – who pledged to "stop the boats" – became Prime Minister in October that year, is now standing at 49,376.

16%, the Lib Dems on 11% and the Greens on 5%.

Deputy Prime Minister Oliver Dowden claimed that Labour would use a massive majority to lock in their power "for a generation".

Sir Keir is committed to giving the vote to youngsters aged 16 and 17 if he wins. But the Tories warn that will mean he could be free to give the vote to EU citizens and prisoners.

Tory analysis of Labour's plans shows that an extra eight million people could eventually have the right to vote.

Last year, Sir Keir back-peddled on previous plans to give the vote to EU citizens after he was accused of planning to rig the system.

But Mr Dowden warned a large Labour majority would give him a "blank cheque" to push through wholesale reform.

Around 46 million people are currently eligible to vote, which will increase by 1.6 million if the voting age is lowered.

Extending rights to EU citizens in Britain would add up to 6.6 million more to the total, while giving the vote to prisoners serving under four years would lead to an extra 27,702.

Sir Keir had suggested previously that some prisoners should have the vote. And when he stood for Labour leader, he called for "full voting rights for EU nationals". Mr Dowden said: "Keir Starmer has long advocated giving EU migrants and prisoners the vote along with 16-year-olds.

"A large majority would give him a blank cheque to do just that, locking Labour in power for a generation. He knows these are groups which would support Labour."

OPINION: PAGE 12

Blues face 'a disaster' warn polls

By **Christian Calgie**

THREE election polls have warned of disaster for the Conservative Party, with all predicting huge Labour majorities.

One for the Telegraph suggested Rishi Sunak could lose his own seat in North Yorkshire, with Labour on course for a majority double the size of their 1997 landslide.

A poll for Sky News by YouGov forecasts a 200-seat majority for Sir Keir Starmer's party.

A third estimates 155 seats for the Tories, but Sir Keir still storming into No10 with a 162-seat majority.

Another poll asked Clacton residents how they intend to vote, and found Reform UK's Nigel Farage may finally win a seat in parliament on his eighth attempt.

Protection PC in 'poll bets' probe

By **Steph Spyro**

A POLICE officer in the Prime Minister's protection team has been arrested over alleged bets on the timing of the election.

The PC, who was taken into custody on Monday on suspicion of misconduct in a public office, has been bailed pending further inquiries and removed from operational duties, the Metropolitan Police said.

It added that it was informed by regulator the Gambling Commission that an officer from the force's Royalty and Specialist Protection Command was being investigated over the alleged bets.

The Gambling Commission said yesterday: "This is an ongoing investigation."

Accused…Lucy Letby

Letby doc's fears over calling 999

By **Chris Riches**

A CONSULTANT told a court he "feared retribution" from bosses at Lucy Letby's hospital if he called police to suggest there was a "nurse killing babies".

A jury heard Dr Ravi Jayaram say he caught Letby "virtually red-handed" standing by a baby's unit as she deteriorated two hours after premature birth.

It is alleged the baby's breathing tube had been dislodged by the nurse.

Asked why he didn't call police, Dr Jayaram told Manchester Crown Court: "We were already told it was inappropriate to involve police." Letby, 34, of Hereford, denies attempted murder.

The case continues.

Fighting talk...Joe Biden

'Felon' jibe at Trump by Biden

By **Seung Min Kim**

US President Joe Biden has taunted "convicted felon" Donald Trump, saying his rival is waging an "all-out assault" on America's legal system.

At a fundraiser for his re-election campaign in Virginia, the leader said "the threat Trump poses in a second term will be greater than his first".

Referencing his 34 convictions after a hush money trial, Biden said on Tuesday: "For the first time in American history, a former president is a convicted felon. More damning is the all-out assault Trump is making on our system of justice."

Thanking donors, ex-president Bill Clinton also praised Biden for his "standards and values".

FORMER PM HEADING OFF

Pictures: CARRIE JOHNSON/INSTAGRAM

Head of the herd...birthday snap of Boris Johnson cradling his sons Frank and Wilfred

No-show Boris still

Videos ...Mel Stride

BORIS Johnson is "clearly an asset" to the Tory General Election campaign, even though he has not appeared in person, a Cabinet minister has declared.

Work and Pensions Secretary Mel Stride's remarks came as it emerged Mr Johnson was no longer expected to appear on the campaign trail.

Explaining his absence, Mr Stride said former the PM was making promotional videos for individual candidates from afar.

He said Mr Johnson was supporting the Conservatives in a "modern way" through the videos, which urge people to vote for the party.

Mr Stride said: "That's probably quite an effective way of getting a message across.

"I mean, Boris is clearly an asset to the campaign, he has clearly chosen to get involved and he's clearly urging people to vote Conservative." Mr Johnson,

By **Martyn Brown**
Deputy Political Editor

who turned 60 yesterday, has endorsed 50 Tory candidates and put his name to tens of thousands of letters to voters, in a bid to counter the threat posed by Nigel Farage's Reform UK party.

It is understood the former Tory leader will be taking a holiday in the coming days, planned long before PM Rishi Sunak called the surprise July 4 election.

He is due back in the UK on July 3, the day before the nation goes to the polls.

Mr Sunak did not tell his predecessor he was planning a snap election and has not spoken to him during the campaign.

Allies of the premier are said to be concerned Mr Johnson could prove to be a distraction because of the "media circus" that would surround him if he spent a day on the campaign trail.

His team said he had acted in line with what party headquarters asked him to do to support the campaign.

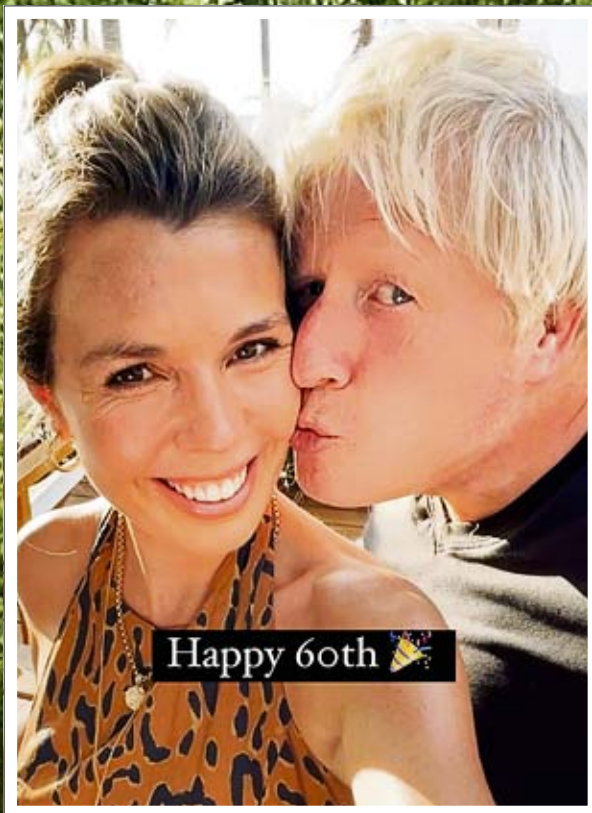
Mr Johnson led the Tories to a historic landslide victory in 2019, which collapsed Labour's "red wall" in the Midlands and the North.

A newspaper report said an original plan to send Mr Johnson to such constituencies was axed amid bleak projections for the party that put it on course for a historic election defeat.

This week the Conservatives have concentrated their efforts in their traditional southern heartlands, where they hope to defend seats against the threat of Labour and the Liberal Democrats.

As a poll found that the

'Keen to help loyalists' ...Andrea Jenkyns

Packing a trunk or three... wooden elephants are set up. Right, Carrie and Boris

Elephant in the room? No, but now there's three in the garden...

By **News Reporter**

FORMER Prime Minister Boris Johnson received some tusk love from his wife Carrie to celebrate his 60th birthday.

Carrie gifted him three elephant sculptures, of two adults and baby.

She also offered an insight into their celebrations at home yesterday on Instagram, posting a series of pictures of their family.

In one of the photos, Boris can be seen holding the couple's two sons, Wilfred, four, and Frank, 11 months.

Their daughter Romy, two, was not pictured.

Secret

Another snap posted by passionate environmentalist Carrie shows her present to her husband being installed in their sprawling garden at their £3.8million Oxfordshire mansion.

The wooden statues are linked to charity The Great Elephant Migration.

Carrie, 36, previously collaborated with the organisation as the head of communications of The Aspinall Foundation.

She captioned the photo: "A very special 60th birthday present, supporting a wonderful charity."

Prices for the elephants start at $8,500 (£6,678) for a "baby" and range up to $25,000 (£19,640) for an adult "tusker". They are made of dried lantana camara wrapped around a metal sculpture then oiled.

The charity's website states: "Every elephant sold will fund co-existence experts working in the USA and across the world."

The eco elephants were not the politician's only treat, as Boris and his wife had jetted off to Sardinia ahead of the special occasion.

Carrie – who met Boris when she was a Conservative Party media official – shared images of their children enjoying the sunshine on the beach.

The couple also recently celebrated their third wedding anniversary on May 30.

They tied the knot in a secretly planned ceremony at Westminster Cathedral at the height of the coronavirus pandemic.

He was the first Prime Minister in 200 years to get married while in office.

Boris's quality time with his family comes in the midst of his party's intensive pre-election campaigning.

Due to the "long-planned" travel arrangements, he has not been taking part in the drive to secure Tory votes on July 4.

His team insisted he has done all the party's HQ has asked of him – for example, by making social media videos.

'an asset' to campaign

party could be reduced to just 115 seats, Mr Sunak, whose resignation as Chancellor was instrumental in Mr Johnson's downfall, said his endorsements "will make a difference".

The PM has said they are being co-ordinated by Tory HQ, but staunch Johnson ally Andrea Jenkyns, who is standing in the Leeds South West and Morley seat, suggested his support was more targeted.

Grateful

She said: "Boris has helped candidates who have reached out to him, as you've seen with the videos online.

"He's keen to help those of us that have been loyal to him. But he's NOT an official part of the campaign.

"Rishi hasn't spoken to him since the campaign began."

During an radio show phone-in yesterday, Mr Sunak avoided answering questions about whether Mr Johnson would join him on the trail. Told it was the former premier's birthday, he replied: "Happy birthday Boris. I hope he's having a good day.

"And it has been great having him support the Conservative Party."

Asked during a campaign visit to East Anglia whether Mr Johnson's absence from the trail would be preferable, as he may not appeal to "blue wall" voters, Mr Sunak said: "No."

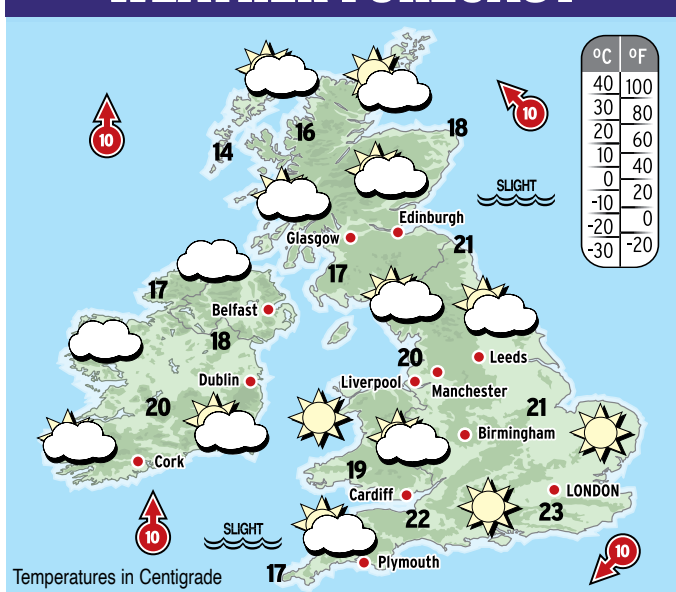
He added: "I'm grateful he's supporting the Conservative Party. He's provided lots of endorsements to candidates across the country."

The Johnsons returned from a holiday in Sardinia this week and Mr Johnson's wife Carrie shared photos on Instagram, captioned: "Beautiful Sardinia. Pasta, ice cream, beach. Repeat."

Yesterday, Mr Sunak's wife Akshata, Chancellor Jeremy Hunt's wife Lucia and Susie Cleverly, the wife of Home Secretary James Cleverly, joined Culture Secretary Lucy Frazer on the campaign trail in East Anglia.

Best Tory feet forward...from left, Lucia, Akshata, Lucy and Susie in East Anglia

WEATHER FORECAST

Temperatures in Centigrade

Today's summary: Mainly dry with bright spells

North West: A dry day with spells of sunshine and patchy cloud. Gentle southerly winds. High 21C (70F).

Northern Ireland: Largely cloudy but staying dry with some sunshine at times. Gentle southerly winds. High 18C (64F).

Wales: Dry and bright with spells of sunshine but also some patchy cloud. Light winds. High 21C (70F).

Midlands: Dry and bright with spells of sunshine but also some patchy cloud. Light winds. High 21C (70F).

North East/Yorks: Rather cloudy, but dry with some sunny periods, especially later. Light winds. High 21C (70F).

Scotland: Dry but mostly cloudy today, although some sunshine is expected. Light winds. High 18C (64F).

East Anglia: A dry and bright day with clear skies and lots of strong sunshine. Light winds. High 21C (70F).

London/South East: A dry and fine day with plenty of summer sunshine. Gentle north-easterly winds. High 24C (75F).

South: Dry and fine with lengthy spells of summer sunshine. Gentle north-easterly winds. High 22C (72F).

South West: A dry day with sunny intervals and variable amounts of cloud. Gentle north-westerly winds. High 22C (72F).

Channel Isles: Early showers, then largely dry with spells of sunshine. Brisk north-easterly winds. High 19C (66F).

Sea: North Sea: Slight. Irish Sea: Slight. Channel: Moderate.

UK OUTLOOK TOMORROW: Dry with sunny spells tomorrow but clouds will thicken across northern and western areas and outbreaks of rain will slowly push eastwards.

SIX-DAY FORECAST
Temperatures in Centigrade

	FRI min	FRI max	SAT min	SAT max	SUN min	SUN max	MON min	MON max	TUE min	TUE max	WED min	WED max
London	14	23	12	21	14	24	14	25	14	26	14	25
Belfast	11	17	11	18	12	19	14	21	12	22	13	21
Birmingham	12	21	11	19	12	22	14	23	14	24	13	23
Cardiff	12	20	10	19	12	22	13	23	14	24	13	24
Glasgow	12	18	11	18	11	18	13	19	13	21	13	20
Manchester	13	21	11	18	12	20	14	22	14	24	13	22
Newcastle	12	21	12	19	12	21	13	21	13	22	13	21
Norwich	13	21	12	19	12	21	12	21	13	22	12	21
Plymouth	12	18	11	18	12	20	14	21	14	22	13	22

Britain yesterday

24 hours to 5pm	SUN (hrs)	RAIN (ins)	TEMP (min)	TEMP (max)
Aberdeen	9.5	0.00	7	18
Aberporth	10.9	0.00	5	15
Alnwick	8.6	0.01	10	17
Belfast	13.5	0.00	6	19
Birmingham	4.4	0.00	9	18
B'mouth	10.0	0.00	10	21
Bristol	6.9	0.00	11	20
Cardiff	11.9	0.00	12	20
Durham	2.8	0.00	8	18
Edinburgh	5.7	0.04	9	19
Glasgow	6.2	0.00	10	18
Hull	5.7	0.00	8	17
Ipswich	8.0	0.00	10	18
Leeds	2.9	0.02	7	19
Lincoln	5.1	0.00	9	18
London	9.4	0.00	12	21
Manchester	9.4	0.00	8	21
Oxford	9.7	0.00	12	20
S'hampton	8.2	0.00	12	21
St Andrews	5.4	0.08	9	19

Moon, sun and tides

MOON rises: 8.33pm, sets: 2.49am
SUN rises London: 4.43am, sets: 9.21pm
Manchester rises: 4.39am, sets: 9.41pm

Full Moon
22 June

HIGH TIDE

London B'ge	(1.10am), (1.36pm)
Liverpool	(10.44am), (11.05pm)
Greenock	(11.49am), (-)
Dover	(10.42am), (10.55pm)

Britain Extremes: (24 hours to 2pm yesterday)
Warmest: Plymouth 22C (72F)
Coldest: Katesbridge 2C (36F)
Wettest: Leeds 0.95in.
Sunniest: Exeter Airport No. 2 11.7hr.

Lighting-up times

Belfast	10.03pm-4.47am
Birmingham	9.34pm-4.44am
Bristol	9.30pm-4.53am
Glasgow	10.06pm-4.31am
London	9.21pm-4.43am
Manchester	9.41pm-4.39am
Newcastle	9.49pm-4.27am

Europe forecast

Today			Tomorrow		
Amsterdam	Fair	20C/68F	Amsterdam	Thunder	19C/66F
Brussels	Rain	20C/68F	Brussels	Thunder	19C/66F
Dublin	Fair	19C/66F	Dublin	Rain	18C/64F
Frankfurt	Rain	23C/73F	Frankfurt	Thunder	24C/75F
Geneva	Showers	24C/75F	Geneva	Thunder	22C/72F
Lisbon	Cloudy	22C/72F	Lisbon	Sunny	24C/75F
Madrid	Rain	22C/72F	Madrid	Fair	28C/82F
Paris	Rain	21C/70F	Paris	Thunder	21C/70F
Rome	Sunny	32C/90F	Rome	Sunny	31C/88F

Around the world yesterday

		C	F
Amsterdam	Cloudy	20	68
Athens	Sunny	36	97
Barcelona	Fair	25	77
Berlin	Cloudy	18	64
Budapest	Sunny	31	88
Cairo	Sunny	32	90
Cape Town	Fair	15	59
Casablanca	Sunny	24	75
Corfu	Sunny	34	93
Dublin	Fair	15	59
Dubrovnik	Sunny	30	86
Faro	Fair	20	68
Florence	Sunny	30	86
Gibraltar	Sunny	23	73
Guernsey	Sunny	17	63
Hong Kong	Shwrs	31	88
Istanbul	Sunny	30	86
Jersey	Sunny	18	64
Larnaca	Sunny	32	90
Las Palmas	Sunny	23	73
Los Angeles	Sunny	22	72
Luxor	Sunny	40	104
Malaga	Sunny	26	79
Mallorca	Fair	25	77
Malta	Sunny	32	90
Melbourne	Sunny	12	54
Miami	Fair	31	88
Moscow	Sunny	23	73
Nairobi	Shwrs	23	73
New Delhi	Sunny	41	106
New York	Sunny	29	84
Nice	Fair	24	75
Nicosia	Sunny	36	97
Perth	Sunny	17	63
Prague	Fair	23	73
Singapore	Thndr	30	86
Stockholm	Fair	18	64
Sydney	Sunny	15	59
Tel Aviv	Sunny	31	88
Tenerife	Sunny	25	77
Toronto	Sunny	30	86
Tunis	Sunny	34	93
Venice	Sunny	27	81
Vienna	Sunny	29	84
Warsaw	Thndr	31	88

Supplied by **MeteoGroup**

Watchdog probes police calf-ramming

By **Margaret Davis**

THE police watchdog is investigating the controversial case where an escaped calf was deliberately hit with a patrol car.

The Independent Office for Police Conduct will judge if it was "proportionate" and that officers behaved in a professional manner following two complaints to Surrey Police, the force involved. Footage of the escaped 10-month-old calf being hit in Feltham, West London, on Friday was shared online.

The cow suffered bruising.

Surrey Police has also launched an internal probe involving its major crime team and professional standards department.

France in debt row

By **Tara Fair**

THE EU Commission has criticised France for excessive debt levels, a stinging rebuke amid its election campaign.

President Emmanuel Macron faces a strong challenge from the far Right and the Left.

France was one of seven nations told by the Commission to begin an "excessive deficit procedure" – the start of a long process before any member state has to take corrective action.

EU states have targets to keep annual deficits within 3% of GDP – France's was more than 5% last year and parties in its election plan more deficit spending to escape an economic rut.

Inflation falls to 2%

By **Martyn Brown**
Deputy Political Editor

RISHI Sunak declared we have "got there" after inflation hit its target in a much-needed election boost.

Official figures revealed the rate fell to 2% in May, largely due to easing food price rises.

Mr Sunak called it "great news", insisting it shows the economy has turned a corner after nearly three years of above-target inflation.

The rate fell from a peak of 11.1% in October 2022, driven by soaring gas and electricity prices.

The latest figures may pave the way for interest rate cuts this summer. They will come as a boost to the Prime Minister, who made lowering inflation one of his key five pledges last year.

He told LBC: "It's very good news because the last few years have been really tough for everybody. It wasn't always easy but we've got there.

"It is because of that economic stability that we have restored, which was my priority when I got this job, that we have now been able to start cutting people's taxes. If I win this election, I want to keep doing more of that."

It is important to note that when inflation falls, it does not mean prices have stopped rising – they increase at a slower pace.

And experts warned that while an important marker, inflation falling does not mean a cut to the base rate from 5.25% today.

A Bank of England cut is seen as "off the table".

Peter Arnold, of the EY Item Club, said: "There's a good chance the first rate cut will come in August."

Today's fall comes two weeks before the election.

LENDER CUTS MORTGAGE RATE

NATWEST is the first big mortgage lender to cut rates ahead of the Bank of England's interest rate decision today. Britain's third largest mortgage provider is lowering fixed-rate deals by up to 0.17%.

Meanwhile, average UK house prices increased by 1.1% in the year to April, accelerating from 0.9% annual growth in the 12 months to March, according to the Office for National Statistics. Private rents increased by 8.7% in the 12 months to May, the ONS said, taking the average to £1,262 per month.

CORRECTIONS AND COMPLAINTS

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Tea may contain insects

By **Josie Clarke**

BATCHES of tea sold by TK Maxx and Homesense have been recalled after some jars were found to contain insects.

The Food Standards Agency said both retailers were recalling selected batches of Kintra Foods organic premium leaf teas. The three varieties being recalled were calm & relax, chamomile, and sleepy.

They were on sale in the stores between April and June this year.

The FSA said: "If you have bought any of the above products, do not consume them. Instead, return them to any TK Maxx or Homesense store for a full refund."

In a joint statement, the retailers said: "Some products from these batches have been found to contain insects.

"Please stop using it immediately and return to any TK Maxx or Homesense store for a full refund."

US rejects claims of Israel PM

By **Mark Reynolds**

THE White House yesterday hit back at Benjamin Netanyahu's claims that the US was withholding weapons from Israel.

In a clear rebuke, press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said: "We genuinely do not know what he's talking about."

She confirmed an ongoing pause remained on one shipment of bombs over concerns about their use in urban areas of Gaza, but insisted no other weapons were being withheld.

The under-fire Israeli PM's office had shared a video in which he rebuked the US, saying he had told Secretary of State Antony Blinken it was "inconceivable" that weapons and ammunition had been withheld "in the past few months".

Mr Netanyahu said of Israel: "America's closest ally, fighting for its life."

The spat comes after President Joe Biden has repeatedly shown frustration over Israel's approach in Gaza.

Pictures: CLICK NEWS/SPLASH

Out and about... Giovanni Pernice

Giovanni performs the fox-slots

FORMER Strictly star Giovanni Pernice has been spotted visiting casinos as the fallout after his departure from the show continues.

The Italian dancer, 33, wore a T-shirt and a pair of tracksuit bottoms as he paid a visit to two gambling halls.

He was spotted visiting Silver Time Casino in west London at about 9.45am before leaving just under an hour later.

From there, he headed to nearby

By **Fran Winston**

Admiral Casino where he remained until around midday.

Giovanni was later spotted snacking on a pastry he had purchased at Paul Bakery.

The stroll on Tuesday marked his first public appearance since Strictly judge Shirley Ballas defended him following his shock exit from the BBC show amid a "misconduct" probe.

Shirley had said: "I have never, ever experienced any ill will or bad feeling or bad sportsmanship or rudeness from him.

"I know he is a hard worker. He wants the people to do the very best that they can do.

"My feeling for Giovanni is, let them do this investigation or whatever it is they are doing and the truth will come out."

Representatives for Giovanni, who denies any misconduct, were approached for comment.

Sue's treated like Royle-ty as she gets freedom of Liverpool

Duo...Sue and Ricky

SUE Johnston has been congratulated by Sir Paul McCartney and Jurgen Klopp on receiving the Freedom of Liverpool.

The Royle Family actress, 80, was joined by her on-screen hubby Ricky Tomlinson, 84, for the ceremony at the city's Town Hall.

Among those paying tribute in video messages on Tuesday was Sir Paul, who was celebrating his 82nd birthday that day.

The Beatle, who had received the Freedom award in 1984, said: "It allowed me to take a flock of sheep through the city centre, so if you need a couple of sheep to borrow just to take them through the streets, I'm your man.

"Congratulations, darling, you're a lovely girl."

Sue, who grew up in Prescot, Merseyside, put her head in her

By **Eleanor Barlow**

hands as former Liverpool manager Jurgen appeared on screen to pass on his congratulations.

Both were nominated for the honour two years ago – the football boss collecting his in 2022.

Sue, who also starred as Sheila Grant in Channel 4's Mersey soap Brookside, said: "When they announced it on the same day as Jurgen, that was breathtaking to me that I was in the same sentence.

"It was very emotional. I cried because I wanted to tell my dad, who loved Liverpool so much. I was so sad I couldn't tell him, and I know how proud he would have been.

"I love Scousers. The wit, the heart, they're cheeky. Just everything. They mean just so much to me. To be granted the Freedom of Liverpool means so much more than anything that I've been awarded really. It's humbling...to be in such great company."

Joining her for the ceremony were Liverpool FC legend Sir Kenny Dalglish, comedian Johnny Vegas and Shameless star David Threlfall. Sue won a Bafta in 2000 for the role of Barbara in BBC hit The Royle Family.

Congrats... Jurgen and Sir Paul

DAILY EXPRESS

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Lock up climate gang for Stonehenge paint stunt

VANDALS who desecrated Stonehenge have achieved the near-impossible by uniting Rishi Sunak and Sir Keir Starmer in agreement. The two party leaders took time out from battling each other during the election campaign to condemn activists who hurled orange powder paint at the ancient stones.

They knew that the overwhelming majority of people across the country would be sickened by this pathetic display. Just Stop Oil claim to be campaigning to save the environment, but they make no effort to convince the public or politicians with their arguments.

Most people would agree that we need to tackle climate change, but they hold that view despite the attention-seeking antics of these protesters, not because of them.

Stonehenge is one of the wonders of the world, a famous British landmark and part of our history.

It is remarkable to think the stones have been standing for thousands of years.

We can only hope the paint thrown at it will cause no permanent damage, as the demonstrators insist. However, this is no harmless student prank and those responsible need to be locked up.

Trust Rishi on migration

THE United Kingdom is far from alone in taking tough measures to tackle illegal migration. Across Europe, governments are ensuring that people who arrive without permission are removed. Many are following the UK's lead and plan to process asylum seekers in safe third countries.

If Sir Keir Starmer becomes Prime Minister, however, he would scrap the UK's plan to deport illegal migrants and allow them to remain in Britain instead. It would make us an outlier in Europe.

While other countries were cracking down, we'd be a soft touch. That could only mean that even more attempt to make their way to the UK.

As Rishi Sunak says, there is a real choice in this election. The Prime Minister stuck with the Rwanda plan – in the face of opposition from the courts and the Left-wing establishment – and succeeded in getting the required legislation into law. He had the courage of his convictions.

Sir Keir, on the other hand, says one thing one day and another the next. He cannot be trusted to secure our borders.

Kate is missed at Ascot

THE Princess of Wales's parents clearly had a wonderful time as they joined the Queen and other royals at Ascot.

The only way the day could have been even more special is if Kate had been there too. Once the time is right and the Princess feels ready, we look forward to seeing her join the rest of the family for a day at the races.

VAT on school fees will leave state pupils worse off

Picture: STEFAN ROUSSEAU/PA

CLASS WARRIOR: Sir Keir chats with pupils during primary school visit last week

Esther Krakue
Daily Express Columnist

ANOTHER day, another Keir Starmer U-turn. Quelle surprise! After dropping a £28billion "green spending" pledge earlier this year, shelving plans to elect the House of Lords and halting the re-introduction of a cap on bankers' bonuses, the Labour leader has now backtracked on plans to add VAT to all fee-paying schools by exempting pupils with the most severe special educational needs.

This latest about-turn is one we all saw coming. It is another nail in the coffin for a policy motivated by sheer class envy without common sense.

Why would some students need to be exempt from VAT on private education if the goal of universal mediocrity is such a noble aim?

By creating this provision, Sir Keir has now opened a can of worms. He is not only acknowledging that state schools don't provide a good enough education for some of our most vulnerable youngsters, but he has also become the arbiter of a system that he seems to hate so much. Where will this all end?

Will students now need to provide a worthiness certificate? And what is classed as special needs?

What about a socially awkward child who would benefit from private schools' smaller class sizes? Does Comrade Starmer find their reasoning worthy of deserving a decent education, or must the Treasury fill its coffers at that poor student's expense?

THESE are all questions the Labour leader would now be forced to address – no doubt becoming every bit the elitist he is trying to tackle. Even Starmer's view that the private education system unfairly chooses winners and losers in society becomes a moot point. Because, by deciding who gets exemption from paying VAT on school fees, he's doing just that himself. There are also the more practical objections to this policy that has brought even the most ardent socialists to heel. From basic rudimentary calculations, it was always clear that there is no way the state sector could absorb the droves of formerly privately educated children moving into state schools.

With about 550,000 pupils now in independent schools, even a 10 per cent cut in private school enrolment would mean an influx of about 55,000 students into state schools. Even Shadow Attorney General Emily Thornberry admitted this was a dilemma and was slapped down for saying so.

Though let's not forget that Comrade Thornberry is married to a Lord Justice of Appeal judge so hardly short of a bob or two, while her children attend the top selective Dame Alice Owen school – Labour true to form have one rule for the comrades and another for the peasants. How are schools meant to cope with the influx of numbers?

Will new schools pop up like mushrooms? State schools are plagued by overcrowding and funding issues.

A sudden influx of tens of thousands of students will only worsen things, increasing class sizes and pressure on teachers and resources, particularly in areas densely populated by privately educated pupils.

Applying 20 per cent VAT to private school fees would also widen social and economic inequality. For many years, private schools have become the domain of the ultra-wealthy, slowly pricing out middle-class professionals who aspired to privately educate their children. In fact, since 2003, fees have risen by 55 per cent in real terms.

This, coupled with the scaling-back of the grammar school system, robbed bright pupils of the social mobility to help them succeed. It beggars belief that a Labour government would double down on this, reinforcing the idea that a private education is only open to the exceptionally wealthy and international students.

BUT perhaps the most potent argument against this ludicrous policy is the amount of political energy that has been expended to only bring a maximum benefit of £1.6billion. Starmer says that the revenue gained through VAT will be reinvested in state education, recruiting teachers and improving infrastructure.

This assumes everything goes to plan and that a mass exodus of private school pupils doesn't overwhelm the state sector and cause more harm than good.

The estimated revenue of £1.6billion (based on crude guesswork) is also utterly negligible, especially given that we spend almost £60billion a year on education. While polls show a majority of every demographic group supports the VAT policy, what it means in practice will likely swing public opinion against it fairly quickly.

The Labour Party would do well to remember that.

'How are schools meant to cope with the influx of numbers?'

VIRGINIA BLACKBURN

"The true measure of a man is how he treats someone who can do him absolutely no good."
Samuel Johnson

MY CHAMPAGNE GLASS IS ALWAYS HALF FULL

Email me at virginia.blackburn@reachplc.com

No wonder fatties are multiplying

A MATHEMATICIAN at Oxford University has come up with a formula as to how to tackle the breakfast buffet when on holiday: "To achieve the best buffet experience... holiday goers must arrive at 8.17am and consume two plates of food."

The first consists of a piece of toast, eggs, beans, two pieces of bacon and two sausages. The second, eaten 16 minutes later, should have two slices of smoked salmon, two servings of fruit, one pastry, one yogurt and cereal.

And then spend a year on Ozempic. The UK's suffering an obesity crisis. Can't imagine why.

THERE'S a meme doing the rounds: if you spell your name backwards and put an umlaut over the first vowel, it's your IKEA furniture name. I'm Äinigriv. I could practically be a member of Abba with that!

Labour's tax on excellence

SO LABOUR is to charge VAT on private school fees. How very fortunate for Diane Abbott that she put her own son through private school – in direct contra-vention of Labour policy – before her party's latest assault on excellence in education.

SCIENTISTS have discovered a new cure for heartbreak. Zapping the brain with a mild electric current for a few minutes a day can lift various feelings of negativity and depression, it seems.

Sounds like a great idea at first, but is this really wise?

Some of the greatest works of art and literature were inspired by heartbreak.

Even in pop music this applies: someone once pointed out that Abba produced a lot of music that was essentially oompah-oompah-oompah until they all got divorced and started creating mascara-ed masterpieces.

Sometimes the gain is worth the pain.

Deeley boppers take us back to Dark Ages

IS IT possible to say anything at all, ever, without offending people these days? The totally innocent, blameless and harmless Cat Deeley has become the latest to be marched to the dock of the asininely stupid: her great crime was to joke that she was "having a seizure" while dancing to Meghan Trainor's song All About That Bass. Cue the sky falling in: seizures are "no laughing matter" harrumphed The Epilepsy Society.

A social media pile-on from This Morning viewers followed. Cat has since apologised: of course she has. Is there one single person out there who genuinely thought that Cat was making light of epilepsy or any other form of seizure for that matter?

It was a lighthearted throwaway remark, designed to express enjoyment, and not make fun of serious medical conditions. Any form of common sense seems to have left the building. Do people actually sit there, waiting for some opportunity to get worked up about precisely zilch?

What other phrases can we no longer use? "Mad about the boy" is clearly insensitive to the mentally unstable. Blackmail, blacklist and black sheep have already fallen foul of the modern-day thought police, although mysteriously, whitewash, also denoting something negative, appears not to offend so much.

Other total no-nos include crippled, blind spot, lame, ghetto and savage and don't even think about talking about selling someone down the river.

And if you think I'm making any of this up, have a Google. That's if you're prepared to lose the will to live.

It is incredible the level of stupidity and intolerance that exists in our society today, along with a point-blank refusal to acknowledge history and the fact that languages change.

The totally bland word "berk" originally referred to one of the most offensive phrases in the English language, but most people aren't even aware of it any more and if they are, it ruffles them not one jot.

No one should have taken any offence at Cat's words and the poor woman should not have been forced to apologise. Do we really want a new Dark Age to take hold?

Pictures: GETTY; BBC

Short and sweet but it's not all about Eve

EVE Gilles, the current Miss France, has come under some criticism for being the first holder of the title to have short hair. What nonsense. Now Ellie Bamber is sporting the gamine look in her role as Kate Moss in the upcoming film about the model's friendship with Lucian Freud – and looks sensational with it.

Time was when all elegant women had short hair. Remember Audrey Hepburn? Jackie Kennedy... Sophia Loren?

MONTY'S GREEN, GREEN GRASS OF HOME

AFTER years of saying he wouldn't, Monty Don, right, has given in and planted a lawn so that his grand-children can play on it. Is this just an excuse?

There is an almost sacred bond between a British man and his lawn: I remember reading that my friend and colleague Patrick O'Flynn has been known to mow his while wearing a suit.

And my husband has a positively dreamy look when he gets the lawn-mower out. Paradise wasn't set in a garden for nothing!

MEGHAN and Harry's attempt to upstage the royals is actually becoming quite funny (and increasingly desperate).

Hours before the Princess of Wales made her extremely welcome return to the public stage, a friend of the ghastly duo released a picture of more duchess-made jam and a few dog biscuits. Really? They think confiture and pet food is going to compete not only with the stunning and dutiful Catherine, but the King, the Royal Family, pageantry, thousands of years of history and the very best of every-thing that is British? Dream on.

Picture: PA

First holiday with pals... brickie Jay

'He's been taken against his will'

Mum's fear for missing son

By **Chris Riches**

THE frantic mum of missing British teenager Jay Slater has flown to Tenerife as fears grow that he has been abducted.

Apprentice bricklayer Jay, 19, who was on his first holiday with friends, jetted to the Spanish island with school pal Lucy Mae for the three-day New Rave Generation festival, which ended on Sunday.

Lucy left early to go back to her hotel in the island's south, leaving Jay with friends he met there.

At 7.30am on Monday, Jay posted an out-of-focus photo on Snapchat of a hand holding a cigarette at a property he travelled to with two British lads.

Drinking

Then, at 8.50am, he rang Lucy in a panic, saying he was trying to make the 10-hour walk back to their flat in Playa de las Americas – but needed water and had just 1% of battery life on his phone.

Police, friends, relatives and locals have been tracing Jay's last known location – on a path in the mountainous Rural de Teno national park in north-west Tenerife.

Yesterday, Jay's mother, Debbie Duncan, who is on the island with her eldest son Zak, said police and mountain rescue teams with drones and dogs had been "working tirelessly" searching for her son.

She said: "I think he's been taken against his will.

"I've not slept at all, it's like it's not real. It was his first holiday abroad with his friends and I was encouraging him to go.

"He's just a great person who everyone wanted to be with." She added: "He's not really a drinker, but he had been drinking shorts and spirits that night.

"He was having a laugh with these guys. He wouldn't have seen the danger, he didn't have his wits about him."

Meanwhile, ex-Coronation Street star and family friend Vicky Entwistle, 55, who played Janice Battersby in the ITV soap, said of Jay: "Hope to God they find him. Please pray for him." Tenerife Civil Guard said officers were working to "investigate all the possibilities".

At Jay's family home in Oswaldtwistle, Lancashire, his stepfather, Andy Watson, 63, said Debbie was "in bits".

Lucy Mae, who is still on the island, said: "The spot where he last made phone contact with me is near a main road and he would have had the wherewithal to flag someone down and ask for help. There's something weird going on."

Chris Elkington, editor of the Canarian Weekly news service, said the search area – a narrow valley called Masca Gorge – was "certainly somewhere you would not want to be in normal conditions without the correct footwear, particularly without water".

Accrington and Rossendale College, where Jay was completing his apprenticeship, said: "Our thoughts at this worrying time are with Jay's family and friends."

The UK Foreign Office said it was in contact with Spanish authorities.

No warning for heat on Mosley isle

EXCLUSIVE
By **Maia Snow**

TOURISTS have told how they were not given any heat warnings on the island where TV doctor Michael Mosley was found dead.

Harvey McIntosh, 27, of Plymouth, and friends took a trip to Symi while on holiday in Rhodes, but were not warned about the weather or to stay near the main town.

Harvey said: "We had heard of the stories in the news but were not explicitly warned of any current danger."

Wildfire

Dr Mosley, 67, was found dead earlier this month after police said he was believed to have suffered heat exhaustion while walking in 40C temperatures on the island.

A postmortem later concluded that he died of natural causes. Four tourists have died in this month's heatwave on the Greek islands. Up to 70 firefighters, helped by water-dropping planes, were yesterday battling to control a major wildfire south of Athens.

Tragic...Sian Hammond

Husband 'put on an act' over wife death

By **Paul Jeeves**

A MORTGAGE broker accused of strangling his wife told medics she had been "alive and well" 30 minutes before he dialled 999, a jury heard.

Robert Hammond allegedly made sure life insurance payments were up to date before murdering wife Sian to pocket £450,000 that would clear his £300,000 debt.

Prosecutors say after calling an ambulance to their £1.2million home in Histon, Cambs, last October he "put on an act", telling the call handler his 46-year-old wife was face down on the bed not breathing.

Doctor Abilius Wong, who attended the scene, yesterday told jurors at

Accused...Hammond

Cambridge Crown Court: "He told us he had last seen the patient well about 30 minutes before the 999 call was made."

Critical care paramedic Sally Boor said it had been unusual that as they administered CPR blood came up through one of the tubes inserted into Mrs Hammond's mouth.

She said: "It normally occurs after 20 to 30 minutes of resuscitation."

The jury has heard how the father of two, who ran Hammond Mortgage Services, was being pursued by debt recovery agents and brought his wife's life insurance premiums up to date on October 26.

Three days later, Mrs Hammond died.

A post-mortem examination indicated she had been strangled.

The trial continues.

Picture: BRADLEY COLLYER/PA

Going full kilt...fans at the cathedral, partying, left, and below; with St Andrew's facepaint, above

Parading...patriotic pipers

Swiss please...Tartan Army party on

By **Mark Reynolds**

SCOTLAND'S fighting spirit was on display last night – on and off the pitch – as fans hit Cologne's streets before their crucial clash with Switzerland.

Around 40,000 Tartan Army descended on the city for the Euro Group A face-off and its main square Alter Markt was cordoned off to stop overcrowding.

One police officer was spotted pushing Scotland fans trying to regain access to the square.

The atmosphere was electric at the North Rhine-Westphalia city's stadium, which echoed to the sound of bagpipes outside. The odds had appeared stacked against Scotland after Steve Clarke's side had been hammered 5-1 by host country Germany in their opening group fixture in Munich on Friday night.

But last night the army of fans in the stadium roared them on to a much-needed 1-1 draw, with Scott McTominey's 13th-minute strike cancelled out by Switzerland 13 minutes later.

Digging deep until the final whistle, the result keeps Scotland's dream alive with one more group match, against Hungary, to go.

In his pre-match conference yesterday, Clarke was clear and concise about the Swiss challenge.

The Scotland boss said: "Difficult opponent, I expect a difficult game."

Ahead of kick-off, "nervous" Scottish fan Jennifer was rightly feeling hopeful. She said: "The team just didn't turn up on Friday."

Meanwhile, England take on Denmark today at 5pm.

EURO 2024: SPORT & PULLOUT

Baby of 7 months mauled to death by family's dog

By **Paul Jeeves** Crime Editor

A SEVEN-month-old girl has been bitten to death by her family's dog inside their home.

The baby was rushed to hospital after the pet – not believed to be a breed classified as dangerous – pounced, biting her head.

The devastated parents of the dead girl, who has not been named, were last night being cared for by specialist police officers and relatives.

The dog has been destroyed and West Midlands Police have begun an inquiry into Sunday's tragedy. There have been no arrests.

A force spokesman said: "A baby has tragically died after being bitten by a pet dog at a home in Coventry. We were called to a property at Shorncliffe Road shortly after 3pm.

"Together with our ambulance colleagues we arrived within minutes.

Hospital

"A seven-month-old baby girl had received serious injuries to her head after being bitten by the family's dog.

"She received treatment at the scene by paramedics before being rushed to hospital for further treatment. Tragically, she died a short time later. Our thoughts remain with her family at this devastating time."

Scene...view of the road in Coventry

West Midlands Ambulance Service said it sent two ambulances, a specialist paramedic and a paramedic officer in response while the Warwickshire and Northamptonshire Air Ambulance was also scrambled to the scene.

Police have urged local residents who have any information about the animal's behaviour prior to the attack to contact the force.

Banned

It is illegal to own dogs from pit bull terrier, Japanese tosa, dogo argentino and fila brasileiro breeds in the UK without a certificate of exemption.

XL bully dogs joined the ban list in England and Wales in February after a spate of fatal attacks.

Barton to pay £35k more to settle libel claim with Vine

By **Frances Millar**

JOEY Barton will pay a further £35,000 damages on top of £75,000 to settle a High Court libel claim with Jeremy Vine, the broadcaster's solicitors said yesterday.

Former Manchester City footballer Barton, 41, said on Tuesday he had agreed to pay Mr Vine, 59, £75,000 plus legal costs for allegations he made on X, including calling the TV and radio presenter a "big bike nonce" and a "pedo defender".

Barton admitted the accusations were "very serious" and "untrue".

But Mr Vine said the payment related to only five of 10 posts that a High Court judge ruled could defame him, and was "not the final outcome" of the case.

Mr Vine's lawyers Samuels Solicitors said yesterday Barton would pay a further £35,000 as part of a "separate settlement" for claims published after the presenter took legal action.

The firm said: "Mr Barton's attempt to argue that these claims were also resolved by the first settlement and the payment of £75,000 were subsequently rejected by the court. Mr Vine is pleased that his claims have been resolved and that he has been vindicated in respect of Mr Barton's appalling allegations and conduct."

As part of the settlement, Barton will also "participate in" a statement in court apologising for his actions and "give undertakings" not to repeat them, the firm said.

Lawyers for Mr Vine told a hearing in London last month that Barton's posts were a "calculated and sustained attack" which contained "clear references to [Mr Vine] having a sexual interest in children".

In May, Mrs Justice Steyn ruled 10 posts could be defamatory to Mr Vine.

The judge said "nonce" was used to allege Mr Vine "has a sexual interest in children" and use of the word "bike" was "a meaningless aspect of the accusation".

Settlement...bike-riding Jeremy Vine sued Barton, left, for libel

Famous pupil...Gordonstoun and, left, Charles joins in 1962

'Children abused' at King's old school

By **Sarsah Ward**

CHILDREN at the King's old school were "exposed to risks of sexual, physical and emotional abuse", an inquiry has found.

Abuse had been "normalised for decades" at the private boarding school Gordonstoun and there was an "extremely violent culture" in some houses, it was said.

Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry chairwoman Lady Smith has published her findings about Gordonstoun, in Moray, Scotland, and its junior school, Aberlour.

Lady Smith said: "I have no difficulty in finding that children were abused at Gordonstoun and Aberlour in a variety of ways over a long period of time. It was only after 1990 and the appointment of a headmaster who understood the importance of pastoral care that abuse eventually began to be addressed and a measure of trust was restored."

Gordonstoun principal Lisa Kerr, writing jointly with chair of governors David White, said: "Today's report is upsetting and it is shocking to read of the abuse. Those who were abused deserved better, and we are sorry they were so badly let down."

King Charles attended the school from 1962 to 1967. His father, the late Duke of Edinburgh, had also attended.

Reluctance...actor Eddie

Eddie: I'm not doing any stunts

By **Ellie Iorizzo**

EDDIE Murphy has told of the difficulties of reprising his role in the fourth instalment of Beverly Hills Cop.

The actor debuted as Detroit detective Axel Foley in 1984, returning in the 1987 and 1994 sequels.

He said: "It felt like an old man. I would rather not do any stunts."

Eddie, 63, told the Today show in the US how in one take he had to run down some stairs and was asked to do so with "more urgency" – to which he said "no".

Beverly Hills Cop: Axel F debuts on Netflix on July 3 and will see him return to California as his daughter (Taylour Paige) is threatened.

Pain…Lawrence Austin

Police gas left boy, 8, in agony

By **Josie Adnitt**

AN eight-year-old on holiday with his mum and dad was left with acute eye problems after being tear-gassed.

Radia Austin, of Betchworth, Surrey, said her son Lawrence screamed in agony after police "blindly" threw tear gas canisters at pro-Palestinian protesters in Paris.

"We felt our eyes burning and it was hard to breathe but my biggest concern was my little one," said Radia, 46, who was with Lawrence's dad Paul, 45.

She added: "Since then he has had a lot of shouty nightmares." They were passing by the protest. French police did not comment.

Pictures: LUC BRAQUET

Election reporting gets Emily's vote

By **Hannah Roberts**

FORMER Newsnight presenter Emily Maitlis says fronting Channel 4's election coverage will seem like "going home".

The co-host of The News Agents podcast will be at the helm alongside broadcaster Krishnan Guru-Murthy, 54.

Emily, 53, is in the August issue of Tatler with broadcasters Kay Burley, 63, who will anchor Election Night Live for Sky, and Mishal Husain, 51, who is standing in for Sophie Raworth for the BBC's General Election leaders' debate.

Journalist Emily, who revealed she was leaving the BBC in 2022, told the magazine: "There was a little rivalry between Channel 4 News and Newsnight. We always used to fight for the same guests. I feel like I'm going home."

She said she realised she wanted to cover the election while watching the America Decides election episode of HBO drama Succession.

Heart

Her return comes after cuts to Newsnight, which she first presented in 2006.

Emily said: "It kind of broke my heart. The whole programme is obviously going through a massive change."

On the election, she added: "Either it's the first change of government for 15 years or it's the most incredible comeback.

"The hardest thing this time will be that I won't have heard of most of the candidates."

Her Newsnight interview with Prince Andrew on his friendship with late paedophile financier Jeffrey Epstein was portrayed in Netflix drama Scoop.

● *See the full feature in August's Tatler, via digital download and on newsstands from Thursday, June 27.*

Poll line-up... from left, Emily (also inset), Kay and Mishal in Tatler, right

Cheating husband guilty of plot to murder wife in 1981

By **Frances Millar**

A CHEATING husband has been convicted of hiring a hitman to murder his wife 43 years ago.

Allen Morgan, 73, was found guilty yesterday at Luton Crown Court of conspiring to murder Carol Morgan, who was battered to death by an unknown killer in 1981.

He found the body of the 36-year-old in the storeroom of Morgan's Food Fare in Linslade, Leighton Buzzard, Beds, when he returned from the cinema in Luton, with Carol's children Dean, 14, and Jane, 12.

The prosecution said the trip gave Morgan a "cast-iron" alibi and allowed a paid hitman to murder and rob Carol.

His then lover Margaret, 75, now his wife, was found not guilty of the same charge. Morgan, from Brighton, was remanded in custody by Mr Justice Martin Spencer. He will be sentenced on July 31.

Affair…Morgan, 73, with Margaret. Inset, Carol

At the time detectives believed Carol had been the victim of a burglary that had gone wrong, but a cold case investigation which began in 2018 uncovered a star witness who revealed that Morgan had wanted to find a hitman to kill Carol.

Jane Bunting, now 60, met the couple in a pub a few months before the murder. She told the jury she was aged 17 at the time and was "appalled" and "horrified" when Morgan asked if her ex-boyfriend knew anyone who could kill.

She said: "He'd say, 'I hate Carol', 'I don't want to be married to her', 'I wish she'd die', 'wouldn't an accident be nice?'"

Carol and Morgan married in 1977. They moved to the shop in 1979. About a year before the murder Morgan and mother-of-two Margaret Spooner, as she was then known, began an affair. Carol, who had closed the shop at 6pm, was battered with an axe or machete, the court heard.

Some £400 cash was taken from a desk, £35 snatched from the till, along with 1,400 cigarettes.

Retired Detective Chief Superintendent Brian Prickett, who led the original investigation, said: "The fact this case remained undetected for over four decades has remained a thorn in the side of all the officers who worked on the case."

Loyalties

Senior Investigating Officer Detective Superintendent Carl Foster said: "Over the last four decades methods of gathering evidence have changed and improved, but the key in this case has been a change in people's allegiances and loyalties."

Carrier sunk by Houthis

By **Tara Fair**

A BULK carrier sank days after an attack by Yemen's Houthi rebels that reportedly killed one person on board.

The huge Liberian-flagged, Greek-owned-and-operated Tutor is the second such ship the Houthis have sunk.

The Iranian-backed group targets vessels using the corridor to protest the Israel-Hamas war – and the Navy has faced its most intense maritime fighting since the Second World War in US-led counter-strikes that began in January.

After the Tutor was hit a week ago by a drone boat, a White House spokesman said this killed "a crew member hailing from the Philippines".

The Houthis have killed four sailors in more than 50 attacks, while strikes on the Houthis on May 30 are said to have killed 16 and injured 42.

Huge rise in acid attacks

Picture: JEFF SPICER/GETTY

Acid ambush survivor...campaigner Katie Piper

By **Paul Jeeves** Crime Editor

ACID attacks and threats have rocketed by 75% in 12 months, with women increasingly targeted, shock findings reveal.

Research by charity Acid Survivors Trust International showed 1,244 offences involving corrosives were recorded in 2023, compared with 710 over the previous 12 months.

However, just 8% of cases lead to charges – and almost a third do not progress because of lack of victim support.

Campaigners are renewing calls for urgent Government action to tackle the "atrocious" crimes that leave victims scarred for life.

Spike

Historically, acid attacks in the UK are associated with gang-related male-on-male violence.

But trends in recent years show they are increasingly linked with attacks against women and girls.

Northumbria and London had the highest number of recorded physical acid attacks.

Asti's research shows half the victims of corrosive offences were women – mirroring the concerning spike in UK gender-based violence.

The charity's findings followed a Freedom of Information request to all UK police forces. But as Police Scotland did not respond and threats are under-reported by victims, Asti fears the true figures are likely to be higher.

Targeted ex-partner...Abdul Ezedi

Of the 1,244 recorded crimes, 454 were physical offences and 790 included threats of corrosive attacks, carrying acids and other serious crimes involving substances, such as rape or robbery.

It marks the second consecutive year in which the number of attacks has increased. A 69% year-on-year rise was also recorded in 2022.

Campaigners say a slight fall in acid violence after the introduction of the Offensive Weapons Act 2019 and during Covid has proved short-lived. Jaf Shah, of Asti, said: "The incoming Government should increase funding for prevention initiatives and address the drivers that facilitate acid attacks and violent crime more generally – socio-economic inequality and deprivation and a lack of opportunity for young people.

"The Government and businesses must tighten the enforcement of laws that restrict access to corrosive substances and do more to stop them being weaponised to cause devastating harm."

Blinded

Ophthalmology professor Francisco Figueiredo, of Newcastle University, said: "Using noxious chemicals to cause harm, and ocular harm in particular, is becoming a popular mode of assault in the UK, and is a serious medical and social concern."

Earlier this year, asylum seeker Abdul Ezedi blinded his ex-partner by hurling a corrosive substance into her face in Clapham, South London, before jumping to his death in the River Thames.

Former Strictly Come Dancing contestant Katie Piper, 40, who suffered similar injuries in a 2008 acid ambush, is backing a fundraising drive for the mum-of-two.

Blast man 'is critical'

By **Tom Wilkinson**

A MAN who was pulled from the rubble of his house following an explosion remains critically ill in hospital.

The 57-year-old was rescued by a passing roofer who saw the blast in Middlesbrough on Tuesday.

Kayfee Hameed, 45, said: "I ran inside and said 'is anybody there?'."

Resident Michael Clark, said: "The man looked terrible when they brought him out.

"All his clothes were stuck to him. They looked like rags."

The scene remained cordoned off because of fears about the dangers posed by structural damage.

Leah 'killed by sex fiend'

By **Jordan Reynolds**

TEENAGER Leah Croucher is believed to have been killed while trying to fight off a convicted sex offender, an inquest has heard.

The tragic 19-year-old's remains were found in the loft of an empty house in October 2022.

But Neil Maxwell was the only person with a key to the Milton Keynes property when Leah disappeared, in January 2019. He killed himself two months later.

Det Supt Kevin Brown, of Thames Valley Police, said he believed Leah, a martial arts black belt, "would have defended herself" from Maxwell's sex attack.

The inquest continues.

Arms deal for Taiwan

By **Tara Fair**

THE US has backed a £283million weapons sale to Taiwan.

Some 291 unmanned aerial vehicles with warheads and 720 "extended-range loitering munitions" are included, the State Department said.

It comes amid tension between Washington and Beijing as it sees Taiwan as part of its territory.

US officials said it "serves US national, economic, and security interests by supporting the recipient's efforts to maintain a credible defensive capability".

Taiwan's President Lai Ching-te said the sale will keep "peace and stability" in the region.

WONDER DRUG BLOCKED FOR NHS

Rob fought till the end for MND cure...we'll not stop until one is found

EXCLUSIVE

By **Giles Sheldrick**
Chief Reporter

Picture: ANDY CATCHPOOL

Fighting for a cure... Geoff with rugby league star son Rob in 2021

THE defiant dad of rugby star Rob Burrow says he will never stop fighting for a motor neurone disease cure.

Geoff Burrow spoke out after a health watchdog controversially ruled out a wonder drug on the NHS.

Leeds Rhinos legend Rob, 41, was diagnosed with incurable brain and nerve condition MND in 2019.

The dad of three, who died on June 2, dedicated the last years of his life to finding a cure.

In a poignant moment last year, *below*, former team-mate Kevin Sinfield carried Rob across the finish line of the fundraising Rob Burrow Leeds Marathon.

But the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence has sparked fury by ruling the number of people who would benefit from tofersen is too small to justify the cost of putting it on the NHS.

Hope

It has caused anger by rating the drug through its Single Technology Appraisal, rather then the Highly Specialised Technologies route.

Speaking before Global MND Awareness Day tomorrow, Geoff, 73, of Pontefract, West Yorkshire, said: "We know this drug works and we must all come together to make sure that we get it into the hands of those members of the MND community who it can help the most.

"Sadly, we know the outcome of MND, but drugs like this give the entire community hope of a brighter future.

"We will not stop until there is a cure."

Tofersen, made by US pharmaceutical giant Biogen, is targeted to treat MND sufferers who have a defect in the SOD1 gene. There are around 100 in the UK.

Products targeted for rare diseases affecting fewer than one in 50,000 people are usually appraised through HST. But Nice does not view SOD1 MND as a clinically distinct disease.

MND Association chief executive Tanya Curry said: "Tofersen represents a truly remarkable breakthrough and we want Nice to show flexibility in its approach.

"Without this, we could face the unthinkable situation where the drug is available to people in the US and EU, but not those in the UK." Dame Pamela Shaw, Professor of Neurology at Sheffield University, who led clinical trials of tofersen, said it offered "a beacon of hope to those with a SOD1 gene mutation".

Nice said: "Our initial decision has been reconsidered, following a challenge by the company, drawing on additional clinical expertise, but this therapy does not meet the criteria for the Highly Specialised Technologies programme.

"Nice will not, therefore, be reviewing this decision."

COMMENT

DAME PAMELA SHAW

Consultant neurologist and Professor of Neurology at Sheffield University

WHEN I started training in neurology, I thought motor neurone disease was the cruellest disease in medicine.

It made me feel like a useless doctor because in those days we couldn't do anything for patients or their families and we knew nothing about what caused it.

It's been a long, slow process, but, several decades on from my first MND clinics, I really feel that we are making progress.

One of the most important treatment milestones in global MND research is the genetically targeted therapy tofersen.

I've conducted more than 25 MND clinical trials and the tofersen trial was the first in which patients reported an improvement in their muscle function.

Never before have I heard patients say 'I am doing things today that I couldn't do a few months ago – walking in the house without sticks, up the garden steps, writing Christmas cards'.

I am deeply disappointed that Nice has decided not to consider tofersen via the Highly Specialised Technologies route applied to consideration of treatments for rare medical conditions.

MND caused by changes in the SOD1 gene is a distinct sub-group which differs from MND more broadly in several important ways.

This has heartbreaking ramifications for UK MND patients.

Precedent

By classifying tofersen as a standard drug, rather than a treatment for a highly specialised rare condition, Nice has significantly reduced the chances of it being available within the NHS.

Furthermore, the decision creates a concerning precedent for patients with rare diseases. By placing a high bar for new treatments targeting small patient populations, Nice risks leaving these patients without access to potentially life-saving therapies.

Researchers are working hard to make MND a treatable and potentially preventable condition.

The Nice decision on tofersen is a missed opportunity for the UK to embrace precision medicine and offer hope to MND patients.

Reconsidering this decision is not just about granting access to one drug; it's about paving the way for a future where personalised treatments are available to patients, including those with rare diseases.

Tesco Carrots 800g

52p

Aldi Price Match

Perfect in a **Roasted Carrot and Grain Salad** when the kids are finally down, and carrots can look like carrots instead of blitzed carrots in a 'special orange sauce'.

That's true value.

Picture: PA

Key comments... Richard Christou speaks during Post Office IT inquiry yesterday

Ex-Fujitsu boss rejects blame for Post Office Horizon scandal

By **Josh Payne**

A FORMER boss of Fujitsu yesterday denied any responsibility for the Post Office scandal, saying he initially believed the faulty Horizon system would be a success story.

Richard Christou said he always regarded the Post Office as a "satisfied customer" and feels "aggrieved" over how the IT technology failed.

Mr Christou, who was chief executive of the firm between 2000 and 2004, told an inquiry he "knew nothing about it".

During the probe, Mr Christou was pressed on his accountability. He was asked: "You don't take any responsibility?"

Scared

Mr Christou replied: "No. I'm not mitigating that there is a gross miscarriage of justice, and if you think I don't feel for the subpostmasters, you're wrong. I do feel. And I also feel aggrieved that what I felt was a good system has been put into such disrepute.

"But I'm not responsible for it, and I've said before that the real issue is the way the prosecutions were handled and the flows of information."

He also added: "If you mean that I was responsible for the miscarriage of justice, then I don't accept that. It's not to mitigate the miscarriage of justice, I hasten to add.

"I think it's a gross miscarriage of justice.

"I really feel for the subpostmasters involved. But talking about accountability is a different matter.

"And certainly I knew nothing about it."

More than 700 subpostmasters were prosecuted by the Post Office and handed criminal convictions between 1999 and 2015 as Fujitsu's faulty Horizon system made it appear as though money was missing at their sites.

Meanwhile, victims of the Post Office scandal say they are trapped in their branches because the incident has scared off buyers.

Any potential buyer taking on an existing or new branch must go through a rigorous approval process with the Post Office – but the brand has become "toxic", owners say.

Graham Livesey, of Staveley, Cumbria, said his PO branch had been on the market since 2015 – with no viewings.

He said: "No one wants to run a post office any more, with the Horizon scandal having taken the money. PO is a toxic attachment."

Aristocrat and partner may face retrial as jury fails to reach baby death verdicts

By **Paul Jeeves** Crime Editor

AN aristocrat and her boyfriend accused of killing their baby were last night facing the prospect of a retrial – after the jury in their five-month trial failed to reach verdicts.

Constance Marten, 37, and Mark Gordon, 50, were accused of causing the death of their fifth child, Victoria, after they went on the run in a bid to prevent her from being taken into care.

Marten had given birth to the tot in secret after the couple's previous four children were removed from them by social workers.

During a nationwide manhunt, police discovered a placenta in the pair's car, which they abandoned when it burst into flames near Bolton, Gtr Manchester, on January 5 last year.

Camping

The pair then travelled across the country with baby Victoria, spending thousands of pounds from Marten's trust fund on taxis, before resorting to camping in a tent in sub-zero temperatures on the exposed South Downs.

During the trial at the Old Bailey, estimated to have cost £10 million, the court heard Marten received nearly £19,000 in payments from the trust during their two months on the run.

The couple were arrested near Brighton on February 27, but refused to tell detectives where Victoria was – or if she was alive.

But two days later, police discovered the baby's body inside a Lidl carrier bag that had been stashed in a disused shed on an allotment.

Accused...Constance Marten and Mark Gordon went on run with fifth baby

Marten and Gordon then claimed Victoria had died of "cot death" and insisted she had not frozen to death because of inadequate clothing and shelter. Marten's family, who lived at Dorset estate Crichel House, has historic links to the Royal Family and her father was a page to the late Queen.

She and Gordon went on trial at the Old Bailey in January, charged with manslaughter by gross negligence, causing or allowing the death of a child, child cruelty, concealing the birth of a child and perverting the course of justice.

Interrupted

Both denied all of the charges. Their trial was originally set to last six weeks, but it was beset by delays before the jury retired to consider their verdicts on April 30.

However, their deliberations were also interrupted by a number of enforced breaks.

And yesterday – after considering the evidence for a total of 72 hours and 33 minutes – the jury foreman told judge Mark Lucraft KC, the Recorder of London, they had been unable to reach verdicts.

Discharging the jury of five men and seven women, the judge told them they would be excused from jury service "for the rest of their lives".

The Crown Prosecution Service must now decide whether to seek a retrial in the next seven days.

Marten, who stood in the dock wearing a blue blouse and black trousers, showed no emotion as the jury were discharged.

Gordon, who wore a blue shirt and dark trousers, stared straight ahead as the jurors left court.

A date for a hearing to determine whether the CPS will seek a retrial has yet to be set.

Alliance head...Jens Stoltenberg

Nato chief raising nuke tensions, says Kremlin

By **Mark Reynolds**

COMMENTS about Nato deploying more nuclear weapons by Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg amount to a dangerous escalation, Russia warned yesterday.

The head of the alliance this week said it was in talks over taking weapons out of storage and placing them on standby.

He added: "As long as nuclear weapons exist, we will remain a nuclear alliance. Because a world where Russia, China and North Korea have nuclear weapons, and Nato does not, is a more dangerous world."

But Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov claimed Mr Stoltenberg's comments contradicted the line from the Ukraine Conference at the weekend, that the threat or use of nuclear weapons in the Ukraine war was inadmissible.

He added: "This is nothing but another escalation of tension."

Welcome to North Korea...pupils greet President Putin, left, and Kim Jong Un

Putin gets treatment

By **Mark Reynolds**

VLADIMIR Putin was given a red carpet welcome as he visited North Korea for the first time in 24 years.

Russia's president was all smiles as he hugged fellow dictator Kim Jong Un and praised him for "firmly supporting" Moscow's war in Ukraine.

Putin was three hours late, arriving in the capital Pyongyang after midnight, but was greeted by Kim in a choreographed show of unity between the two pariah nations.

Kim said he "fully supports" the invasion and the two leaders signed a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership said to be aimed at helping each other in the event of "aggression".

Putin, 71, said it included a mutual defence clause, adding that "Russia does not rule out" developing military-technical co-operation as well.

Kim, 40, called Russia "the most honest friend and ally" as the pair drove through Pyongyang, waving from the sunroof of a black limo, after watching a 10-minute show of massed dances and singing plus a military ensemble's 21-gun salute.

In an article on North Korean state media before the visit, Putin praised "Comrade" Kim and promised to "jointly resist illegitimate unilateral restrictions", to develop trade and strengthen security across Eurasia.

He added: "Washington, refusing to implement previously reached agreements, continuously puts forward new, increasingly stringent and obviously unacceptable demands.

"Russia has always supported and will continue to support [North Korea] and the heroic Korean people in their opposition to the insidious, dangerous and aggressive enemy."

The pair last met in September in Vladivostok but this is only Putin's

Friends...Putin shakes Kim's hand

Pictures: GAVRIIL GRIGOROV/SPUTNIK

Massed ranks...choreographed crowds holding Putin posters wave at despots' motorcade in Pyongyang

red carpet from Kim

second Pyongyang trip. His choice of nations to visit is now very limited after an arrest warrant for war crimes was issued by the International Criminal Court in The Hague.

But Russia's president was keen to show he still has a presence on the international stage as he flew in from Yakutia, Russia's coldest region and six time zones east of Moscow, with an escort of Su-30 fighter jets.

The visit comes amid heightened tensions between North Korea and its neighbour after South Korean soldiers fired warning shots to repel troops from the North who briefly crossed the rivals' land border for the second time this month.

Centre of attention...pair under arch

There has been speculation as to what Russia and North Korea want from each other, but experts believe it is basically military supplies to bolster their respective arsenals.

Sergei Markov, a political scientist and Putin ally, said Russia was most likely on the lookout for ammunition, construction workers – and even volunteers to bolster the front line in Ukraine.

In return, Pyongyang may receive Russian produce plus technological help for military goals including its missile programme ambition to be within striking distance of the US.

South Korea and the US have each accused the North of giving Russia artillery and other kit, probably in exchange for food and military aid.

Both countries deny that an arms deal exists – but they also vowed last year to strengthen military ties.

Since he attacked Ukraine in February 2022, Putin has become a pariah to the West and has been seeking allies elsewhere.

Putin is also to visit long-time ally Vietnam, with the countries expected to discuss issues including trade.

Knife lad, 16, given life for party murder of Charlie, 17

By **Paul Jeeves** Crime Editor

A BRUTE aged 16 who murdered a teenager after being told to leave a party will serve at least 16 years after being jailed for life.

Yura Varybrus stabbed Charlie Cosser, 17, three times in the chest on the dancefloor of a marquee at a £1.5million farmhouse.

Varybrus, now 17, had not met Charlie before the party near Warnham, West Sussex.

The drunken teen lashed out after behaving inappropriately towards a girl.

Charlie, of Milford, Surrey, was seen lying in the grass and suffered a cardiac arrest on the way to hospital, dying two days later on July 25 last year. His father Martin said when police told Varybus that Charlie had died "he didn't even flinch".

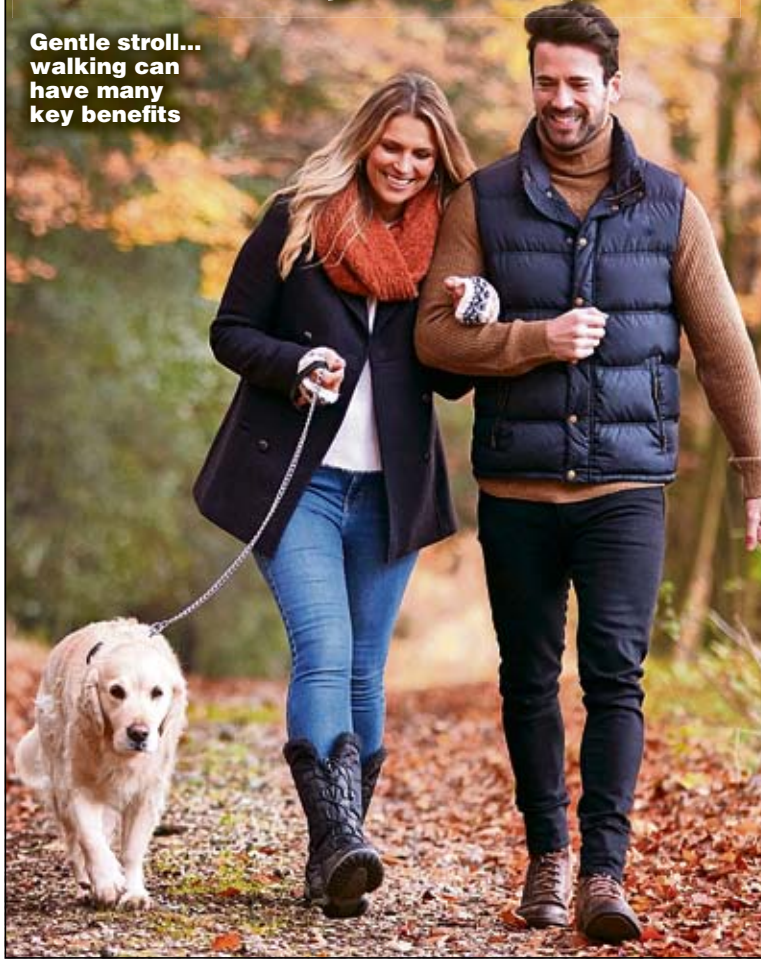
Varybrus, who had denied a charge of murder, exchanged a raised fist salute with his father Ihor, from West Sussex, as he was taken down from the dock.

Sentencing Varybrus yesterday at Brighton Crown Court and lifting restrictions on naming him, Judge Christine Henson KC said while she accepted it was a "spontaneous" incident, she added: "You armed yourself with a knife."

Killed..Charlie Cosser; top, Varybrus

Picture: GETTY

Walk is step closer to easing back pain

Gentle stroll... walking can have many key benefits

By **Nilima Marshall**

WALKING could be a cheap and easy way to prevent recurring back pain, scientists have suggested.

Trials have found that patients who went for daily strolls had fewer flare-ups.

Those who walked five times a week for an average of 30 minutes each day, and received coaching from a physiotherapist, remained pain-free for nearly twice as long as people who did not receive any treatment.

The findings show walking could have a "profound impact" on a condition that affects eight out of 10 people in the UK and is the leading cause of disability worldwide.

Simple

Mark Hancock, from Macquarie University in Australia, said: "Walking is a low-cost, widely accessible and simple exercise that almost anyone can engage in, regardless of geographic location, age or socio-economic status."

Scientists followed more than 700 adults who had recently recovered from lower back pain for up to three years. Half were set a walking programme.

The study is published in journal The Lancet.

TV keeps Watch on big crimes

EXCLUSIVE
By **Nicola Methven**

CRIMEWATCH will celebrate its 40th anniversary with its first spin-off show.

It will tell the stories of how police solved the biggest cases – and how others remain a mystery.

Cases re-examined on Crimewatch Caught include officers smashing a prison smuggling ring and two sisters who fought for 30 years to get justice over a murder.

It will also reveal the inner workings of how detectives go about investigating complex crimes.

Each episode will feature interviews with leading officers who explain how CCTV, forensic evidence and witness testimony helped to bring criminals to justice.

Michelle Cox, of BBC Studios, said: "We think audiences will find this fascinating. We're proud to give victims, their families and the detectives a place to tell their stories."

The shows will be screened in the autumn.

Dementia treatment discovered

By **Nilima Marshall**

DRUGS used to treat an enlarged prostate offer protection against a common form of dementia, a study found.

Researchers said men who took terazosin, doxazosin and alfuzosin were 40% less likely to develop dementia with Lewy bodies compared with those taking other prostate drugs.

Jacob Simmering, from the University of Iowa, US, said: "These results are exciting because right now there are no drugs to treat dementia with Lewy bodies, the second most common neurodegenerative type of dementia after Alzheimer's.

"If we can determine that an existing drug can offer protection against this debilitating disease, that has the potential to greatly reduce its effects.

"It is promising to think that these drugs could have a protective effect on this disease that will likely affect a larger number of people as the population ages."

The study is published in the journal Neurology.

TECH TEACHES LESSONS FROM HISTORY

Future...survivor Manfred Goldberg watches himself; inset, VR headset

Pictures: HOLOCAUST EDUCATIONAL TRUST

AI will let Holocaust survivors speak with future generations

By **Eleanor Busby**

ARTIFICIAL intelligence is to let pupils interact with survivors of the Holocaust who have died.

Developers aim to "immortalise" survivors and their stories through lifelike "conversations" with pupils.

The programme has been launched at a time when anti-semitism is rising – and Holocaust survivors pass away.

Karen Pollock, chief executive of the Holocaust Educational Trust who created the programme, said it is vital pupils learn about the slaughter of Jews and other minorities by the Nazis as conspiracy theories and misinformation spread online.

She said: "There are people who deny the Holocaust, who distort the Holocaust...abuse the memory. This is the experience of a real person and you can hear about it and see the site that they are talking about."

Currently survivors share their experience with thousands of pupils every year but it is increasingly hard for those in their 80s and 90s to travel to speak in schools first-hand – and soon the Holocaust will no longer be in living memory.

But speech-to-text recognition AI search technology plus a filming technique with nine cameras has created virtual 3D versions of survivors that can answer 1,000 questions. AI understands the question and plays a survivor's recorded answer to give the feeling of a natural conversation.

Seeing the past..pupils at Sacred Heart don a VR headset and chat to Holocaust survivor Mr Goldberg yesterday

Using virtual reality headsets, students will be able to explore sites linked to survivor stories, including their home towns and prison camps.

Ms Pollock added: "We're just facing the reality that Holocaust survivors are getting older and frailer and fewer. They are in their later years. Let's not wait till that moment where we don't have anyone here. Let's do it now and gradually embed this sort of programme in schools."

Manfred Goldberg, who was in the Nazis' Stutthof concentration camp in modern-day Poland and on a death march, is the first survivor featured. The 94-year-old has shared his story in hundreds of schools over 20 years and said pupils told him the experience had changed their lives.

Mr Goldberg, from North London, said: "That is what keeps me going. People for decades to come will be able to hear the words of a Holocaust survivor." He spent five days being filmed from multiple angles on volumetric capture cameras, and answered some 1,000 questions.

He added: "I have spoken to thousands of pupils over the years – perhaps now I will make it millions. If this is my legacy, it will be a truly remarkable one."

The Testimony 360 project was launched yesterday at Sacred Heart Catholic School in Camberwell, South London. Pepe Di'Iasio, head of the Association of School and College Leaders, said: "This new technology will help staff bring this vitally important topic to life for future generations."

WORLD'S TOP COMPANY VALUED AT £2.6TN

US technology firm Nvidia has become the world's most valuable company.

The firm, which makes computer chips to power artificial intelligence software, is now valued at £2.63trillion, more than 180% higher than it was at the start of the year.

Nvidia had already overtaken Apple in valuation earlier this month.

Jensen Huang, its chief executive, has been described by Meta boss Mark Zuckerberg as being "like Taylor Swift, but for tech".

'DAVID'S DON QUIXOTE; I'M SANCHO PANZA'

Older brother of arch interviewer Louis, the novelist and broadcaster MARCEL THEROUX, 55, below right, who fronted ITV's recent two-part Playboy Bunny Murder documentary, describes Killer Books...

AS A TRUE crime fan, I'd known of David Wilson for some years. But it wasn't until I started making the ITV documentary that I met him. We hit it off immediately: I like talking about crime and he's a very well-read man.

It wasn't long before we found ourselves discussing works of fiction that inspired crime and found 20 books associated with different murders. That's when we realised that we could combine our strengths to talk on this subject together.

We knew we'd have to be conscious of reining in our enthusiasm: in each instance, real people had lost their lives and their friends and families might well still be alive. But we tried it out in Birmingham and Haileybury first and it went down well.

Now, we're going on tour, a chance to see Britain's most celebrated criminologist, the man who's interviewed every serial killer behind bars, in conversation with me about various books that have inspired copycat murders. We're a double-act: he's Don Quixote; I'm Sancho Panza.

Take JD Salinger's The Catcher in the Rye. The fictional story of a rebellious teenager, a role model for disaffected young men the world over was linked to John Hinckley Jr, Ronald Reagan's would-be assassin, and found in the possession of Mark Chapman, John Lennon's killer. We ask the audience to vote on whether or not the "blame" for those two crimes can be laid at the door of Salinger's anti-hero. I say they can, David disagrees.

I once met Anthony Burgess; I have a signed copy of A Clockwork Orange. He used to insist the book was not a blueprint for unhinged individuals to commit murder. But, after the killing of Jamie Bulger, I think he felt the climate might have changed. So, who can say?

The best way to describe the evening is that it has the feeling of a live podcast or theatre. No two shows are the same.

EXCLUSIVE

By **Richard Barber**

HOW DOES a boy raised on a dairy farm outside Carluke, South Lanarkshire, end up as arguably Britain's top criminologist? "Simple," says Professor David Wilson. "Rugby." None the wiser? Let him explain.

"Playing rugby at Cambridge changed the entire trajectory of my life. I was a winger; I was fast; I had a good side-step off both feet.

"But I got fouled pretty badly in one match and, when I got up off the ground, I punched the person who'd done it and broke his nose. We both got sent off – and, two hours later, we were best friends, drinking at a bar."

That very week, the Cambridge Evening News covered a story about a young man, an unemployed labourer the same age as Wilson, who'd punched and broken the nose of the doorman outside the pub where he'd been drinking. He was arrested and subsequently sent to Borstal for two years.

"I wanted to know how his more-or-less identical violence led to two years in detention while mine had resulted in a couple of pints at the college bar," explains Wilson, a former prison governor who has worked alongside some of Britain's most prolific murderers and on several police investigations.

"As a direct result, I finished my degree in history and philosophy, applied to study the civil service exams before being appointed an assistant prison governor (under training) at Wormwood Scrubs, the youngest in the country," he recalls.

"The reason, of course, for the different ways in which the labourer and I were treated was down to privilege and class. I thought it was wrong then and I think it's wrong now.

"But the result was that I found myself working in a therapeutic way with men who had committed violent crimes."

One of the first prisoners he met at the Scrubs was Dennis Nilsen, the serial killer who, between 1978 and 1983, despatched at least a dozen young men by burning their body parts or flushing them down the lavatory of his north London flat.

"Whenever we were together, I was conscious of him talking at me rather than with me. He didn't want my opinion; he simply wanted to talk about himself. He was the very definition of the philosopher Hannah Arendt's concept, in describing Adolf Eichmann: 'the banality of evil'."

NOTORIOUS: Top to bottom, Charles Bronson, serial killer Dennis Nilsen and Unabomber Theodore 'Ted' Kaczynski, in handcuffs

NILSEN was in sharp contrast to Charles Bronson (now Salvador), widely regarded as Britain's most dangerous man.

"He was clearly a very troubled person, someone you had to be very careful around. There was a volatility about him, the feeling that he might erupt at any moment. But that was

How a dust-up on the rugby pitch inspired Britain's leading criminologist

Former prison governor Professor David Wilson reveals the Sliding Doors moment that took him from a rural dairy farm to working alongside some of the UK's most dangerous men

CALLING: Professor David Wilson aimed to uncover what makes people violent

30 years ago; he might have mellowed in the meantime."

Subsequently, and after a short time with the Prison Reform Trust, Wilson joined Birmingham City University where he still teaches, was given a professorship in 2000 and was made Emeritus Professor in 2017. With Silent Witness star Emilia Fox, he also co-presents the Channel 4 series, In the Footsteps of Killers, the third helping of which will be shown in 2025.

A couple of years ago, novelist and broadcaster Marcel Theroux came into his life for advice on a TV documentary he was putting together. "We got talking and one day I happened to mention how interesting I found it that there were a number of novels which have led, directly or indirectly, to murder," says Wilson, 67.

It turned out to be something of a lightbulb moment which has now spawned an upcoming UK tour, Killer Books, taking in 12 venues and kicking off in New Brighton, Merseyside, on September 10.

"I'd done a one-man tour last year and had been rather bitten by the bug. So, the idea of talking about books – think how many clubs there are throughout the land – combined with true crime, seemed like a no-brainer," says Wilson.

'Nilsen didn't want my opinion; he simply wanted to talk about himself... Bronson was clearly a very troubled person.'

So, which works of fiction are likely to come under scrutiny?

The Turner Diaries, a novel written in 1978 by American neo-Nazi William Luther Pierce, under the name Alexander Macdonald, was a call to other white supremacists to rise up and overthrow the government. That book has inspired a number of murderers, from Timothy McVeigh, the Oklahoma City bomber, to Anders Behring Breivik who killed 77 people in Norway, to the Brixton nail bomber, David Copeland, who quoted the novel as a call to action upon his arrest.

Then there's Holden Caulfield.

"The disaffected teenager at the centre of the novel The Catcher In The Rye, appealed to what I would describe as those of a fictive personality, people so uncertain of who they are that they latch on to a character who gives their life meaning," Wilson says. "Mark Chapman, John Lennon's killer, so identified with him he believed he had become him.

"For what it's worth, that strikes me as incomprehensible now I've re-read the book as an adult.

"I find Holden insufferable and his actions frankly implausible. Which 16-year-old that you know would book himself into an Upper West Side hotel? Or hire the services of a sex worker?"

WILSON is reluctant to name particular books that sparked copycat killings – "I think that would be irresponsible" – but he notes that Joseph Conrad's The Secret Agent was on the bedside table of Ted Kaczynski. Between 1978 and 1995, the so-called Unabomber murdered three and injured 23 in a nationwide nail bombing campaign across America against those he believed to be advancing modern technology and the destruction of the natural environment.

As he prepares to hit the road again, has Wilson ever encountered anyone in an audience who has made him wonder if that person was capable of murder?

An involuntary chuckle.

"Oh, constantly. And I have 400 new criminology students every year, at least a couple of whom will give me the heebie-jeebies."

All of which leads to the blindingly obvious observation: there surely is a book in all of this.

● *Professor David Wilson and Marcel Theroux's Killer Books Tour runs September 10 to October 22, tickets available via professordavidwilson.co.uk*

EXPRESS EXTRA

Scan here to see more celebrity mugshots

Hollywood hall of shame

Rogues' gallery of celebrities

By **Frances Millar**

POP superstar Justin Timberlake has joined the celebrity hall of shame after he was arrested for drink-driving.

The Cry Me A River singer, 43, is said to have claimed he had only "one Martini" when police pulled him over after he was allegedly spotted swerving and driving through a stop sign in New York. Now his mugshot, *left*, can be displayed in a rogues' gallery of stars accused of breaking the law, such as Frank Sinatra, Hugh Grant and Michael Jackson.

FRANK SINATRA

HUGH GRANT

DONALD TRUMP

BILL COSBY

NICK NOLTE

LINDSAY LOHAN

ROBERT DOWNEY Jnr

MICHAEL JACKSON

Pictures: NOONANS / SWNS

Returning...a white stork

Baby boom brings Brit storks back after 600yrs

By **Imogen Howse**

WHITE storks are back delivering babies in Britain after 600 years.

The large migratory birds became extinct here in the early 1400s, thanks to hunting and the destruction of their wetland habitats.

But now, thanks to a breeding and rewilding programme, the birds once believed to deliver human babies have had a mini British baby boom of their own.

Social

The White Stork Project began hatching fledglings in 2020 – and this year 41 will fly their nests at Knepp Castle in West Sussex and Wadhurst Park, East Sussex.

Storks that can't fly were used to attract a new population to Britain. Project officer Laura Vaughn-Hirsch said: "Storks are a very social species so they will go where others are.

"We needed birds which weren't going to migrate so we used 30 injured storks from Warsaw Zoo. They got to be part of this rewilding programme even if they could never survive in the wild themselves."

I dug up Saxon gold from 'empty' field

Dragons gem ...beasts on 7th century gold pommel, part of a Saxon sword

By **Imogen Howse**

THIS Saxon sword pommel found in a field by a determined detectorist is tipped to fetch up to £18,000 at auction today.

The 7th century item was unearthed in Billesdon, Leics – by a woman who had been warned by fellow detectorists that there was nothing to be found there.

The 1.5in by 0.5in gold end of a sword's hilt is decorated with two dragons and a snake-like pattern. It was declared to be treasure and will be sold after Leicester Museum chiefs declined to buy it.

Nigel Mills, artefact expert at London auction house Noonans, said: "The sword pommel is a beautiful example of fine Anglo-Saxon gold measuring 4cm by 1.5cm and weighing 20.5g (0.7oz).

"It is of cocked hat form using beaded wire filigree ornamentation. On one side there are two dragons or beasts facing each other, with their heads and front paws touching.

"On the other side, there is an interlaced snakelike pattern. The pommel would have been fixed to the end of the sword handle both as a counterbalance and to stop the hand slipping."

Mr Mills, *pictured right*, added: "The imagery displayed would have imbued a mystical power to the sword."

The woman finder, who wants to stay anonymous, has been metal detecting for 60 years.

In that time, she has found many medieval and Roman coins but the pommel is one of her most exciting discoveries. She said: "I was at a local detector meeting searching a field that everybody said had nothing in it when I had a signal.

"After digging to a depth of 7in, I discovered a gold Saxon sword pommel dating to the early 7th century, decorated with a filigree pattern." It is being offered in an ancient coins and antiquities sale at Noonans Mayfair at 10am.

Experts have estimated that the pommel may fetch up to £18,000.

The finder will split the final sum with the owner of the land where she found the treasure – using her half to buy a new car.

Fried chicken copycat win

By **Nev Ayling**

A FRIED chicken chain loved by rapper Stormzy and other musicians has won a High Court battle with a mimicking competitor.

Morley's fast food chain is mentioned in Stormzy's 2015 track Wicked Skengman Part 4 – and his 2017 Big For Your Boots video was filmed inside one of its branches.

It also worked with Corey Bovell's one-man theatre show Chicken Burger N Chips. Meanwhile, grime star Krept used a Morley's storefront prop in a 2019 gig featuring his song, Morley's Freestyle.

But the chain's branding was at the centre of a court stage over claims rival Metro's used signage too similar to Morley's distinctive red and white, "MMM...it tastes better" trademark.

Morley's MMM... It Tastes Better

Metro's ...It's The Real Taste

Seeing red...Morley's and Metro's signs

Judge Melissa Clarke has ruled Metro's "... It's the real taste" sign "infringed Morley's red and white mark".

Shan Selvendran, who runs family-run chain Morley's, said the KFC-inspired brand, founded in 1985, was now "synonymous with fried chicken for everyone in South London". With its roots in the capital's Sri Lankan community, Morley's became a part of the hip urban landscape when musicians increasingly referenced the shops.

Morley's, which Mr Selvendran said faced a "constant battle with imitators", first locked horns with Metro's in 2010, when its boss, Kunalingham Kunatheeswaran, planned a new "Mowley's" outlet.

Ruling Mr Selvendran was entitled to "injunctive relief", Judge Clarke said: "The [company] says that this is the latest episode in persistent copycat behaviour by Mr Kunatheeswaran, during which time he has imitated and sought to ride on the coat-tails of the claimant's branding."

A further hearing to decide the details of the injunction will take place at a later date.

HICKEY

WHILE affectionately wishing "Uncle" Paul McCartney a happy 82nd birthday this week, John Lennon's son Julian, *pictured*, acknowledges their bond has its limits.

Despite Sir Paul having written Hey Jude for Julian back in 1968, Lennon recently remarked: "It's weird... we're close but we're not that close."

During an in-depth chat with American host Bill Maher last autumn, Julian added of his relationship with Sir Paul: "We know a great deal about each other, but we've never even done this."

STAYING with Sir Paul, he'll be pleased to learn Hey Jude is enjoying a new surge in popularity since fans adopted it as the anthem for England's star footballer Jude Bellingham.

Macca's one of the few Liverpudlians to oddly support both Liverpool and Everton, playfully explaining: "I know it's not strictly allowed, but I got special dispensation."

RAISING eyebrows since confirming his election campaign is a "pub crawl" around his Lichfield constituency, comical Tory veteran Sir Michael Fabricant responds to a claim he was tipsy during a video appearance outside one establishment.

An MP for over 30 years, Fabricant jokily clarifies: "I hadn't gone in at that stage...you should have seen me after."

HIGHLIGHTING one of his more awkward female fan encounters, former Doctor Who actor Matt Smith recalls: "She had tattoos on her inner thigh, one each side. David Tennant was there and I was there – they were massive. Her husband was with her and I was like, 'Mate?'"

WITH Sir Ian McKellen, *pictured*, in the headlines this week after alarmingly falling off the stage during a West End performance of Player Kings, pal and former co-star Frances Barber reveals the 85-year-old's secret weakness.

"He'll probably chastise me for this, but he loves Rowntree's Fruit Gums," the actress announces. Fans wishing the legendary thespian well can send packets of said sweeties to the Noël Coward Theatre...

PROMOTING his new memoir about life representing some of music's biggest stars, publicity guru Alan Edwards identifies Sir Mick Jagger as the most PR-savvy. "He had a great respect and a fantastic understanding for journalism and marketing," Edwards explains.

Recalling meticulous Jagger's requirements when preparing for a press interview, he adds: "He wanted to know the last three pieces the journalist had done for the magazine. Which was very hard before the days of Google!"

SAUCY author and relentless networker Kathy Lette eagerly reports her latest book launch was well attended by celebrity folk.

"I don't want to go for gold in the Name-Dropping Olympics, but I was the only person I'd never heard of!" she tells Woman's Weekly. Hickey's name-dropping league table presently has Kathy neck and neck with old rival Gyles Brandreth.

AN EMBRACE 75

EXCLUSIVE

By **Jane Warren**

MARTIN Sixsmith was a guest speaker on a cruise to South Africa in 2019 when he watched an elegant elderly passenger descend to the quayside in Cape Town to be greeted with a kiss from an equally elderly man. When they resumed their journey, the former BBC correspondent invited her out for lunch and asked who the gentleman on the quay was.

"A fighter pilot," replied Anna-Maria van der Vaart, who was then aged 99. "The last time we kissed was in Holland, 75 years ago." The man's name was Terry Thompson.

As the cruise ship sailed north from Cape Town, where Anna-Maria's brother Rein had also emigrated, the friendship between the journalist and the nonagenarian deepened as she revealed to him one of the great untold stories of the Second World War.

"She told me about the downed Allied pilots, including Terry, who she had sheltered in her safe house in Rotterdam in the darkest days of the war when she was a young mother," Martin says today.

"She described the persecuted Jews who were in danger of being sent to the death camps and found refuge in her home, and how she stood up to the Nazis by participating in audacious acts of resistance."

This dangerous work included distributing resistance material, being instrumental in a successful plot to blow up the office where Nazi records of Jewish citizens were kept, and helping rescue imprisoned resistance colleagues by assisting her comrades in impersonating Nazi officers.

"She was an indomitable spirit who remained independent right up to the end," he says. Anna-Maria died in March at the age of 104. Now the compelling book he has written about the Dutch resistance, through which her remarkable bravery is woven like a golden thread, has just been published.

"I had noticed her on the ship immediately because she was incredibly independent and refusing offers of help from stewards," recalls Martin, 69. "I asked what happened in 1940 when the Germans came and she said, 'I joined the resistance, of course, everybody did'. Which they certainly didn't."

Their conversations continued over the next few years, at Anna-Maria's home in Worthing, Sussex, until her death. "Like many English speakers, I had heard a lot about the French Resistance and about Soviet partisans, but my knowledge of what happened in the Netherlands extended little beyond the heart-rending story of Anne Frank," says Martin.

"When I asked Anna-Maria why that might be, she said, 'You've just given the answer. The Dutch turned more Jews over to the Nazis than any other nation' – an estimated 75 per cent, in fact. The Dutch remain very conflicted about their history because there were traitors in every resistance cell, including a mole in Anna-Maria and her husband Pim Roest's cell. There were more tales of treachery than heroism in Holland.

"This meant that Anna-Maria was taking a huge risk every time she agreed to offer someone sanctuary in her attic under the noses of the Nazi officers who often came searching for hidden Jews, and not only from the uniformed men banging on the door.

"Terry Thompson stayed a month in the safe house Anna-Maria established before she handed him on to a resistance guide. As he left, he gave her a shy kiss."

Terry wrote to her years later to tell how he had hiked 40 miles towards the Belgian border, crossing rivers by raft before picking up a steam train and jumping off before the final stop to avoid customs checks. Having made it to Brussels, then Paris, he was taken over the Pyrenees to Spain and on to Gibraltar, where an agreement enabled Allied airmen to travel to England. Terry returned to his squadron and flew 32 more sorties before the war's end, but the memory remained of the young Dutchwoman he kissed on the night he set forth for freedom.

Says Martin: "Anna-Maria told me he said, 'I'm afraid this might be the last kiss I ever have'." It was not, but it would be 75 years before Anna-Maria herself would give him another after they corresponded regularly by letter, hoping always to meet. The chance to do so came when Anna-Maria visited her brother on the cruise four years ago.

REMARKABLE MOTHER: Above, Anna-Maria van der Vaart with baby daughter Hanneke; left, her Jewish friend Marlies Friedheim whose life she saved

The touching embrace between fighter pilot and his Dutch angel sealed a new chapter in their story. Anna-Maria's heroism started soon after the outbreak of war.

"A keen actress, she was being lined up to work as a honeytrap, enticing German admirers to a location where an execution party would be waiting," says Martin. "She would have done it but had by then discovered she was expecting her daughter, Hanneke."

INSTEAD, Anna-Maria, who had been a university student before the war, began to organise her home as a safe house. Mattresses and blankets were placed in the attic and filled the cramped space wall to wall. Some people stayed for days, others for months or years. There were so many arrivals that it was impossible to hide what was happening, but the neighbours, whose son Anna-Maria had helped to save from a drunken German soldier, kept her secret.

When the Germans banged on the door in the middle of the night, Anna-Maria would scoop up her infant daughter, and when they said they were going to search the house she would say "All right, just for a moment" and hand them the child.

She would then fetch them a glass of milk,

YEARS IN THE MAKING

Pictures: HULTON ARCHIVE

HORROR AND HEROISM: Main, 1940 Nazi parade in Amsterdam; Anna-Maria aboard the ship on which she first met Martin, right

When former BBC correspondent Martin Sixsmith saw an elderly couple on the quayside during a South African cruise, his interest was piqued. And after hearing their story of wartime heroism in Occupied Holland, he knew he had to share it...

while the residents of the attic hid. Disarmed by the baby, they always went away. Even after becoming a full-time mother, Anna-Maria was still involved in daring missions, including being involved in blowing up the Amsterdam Public Records Office on March 27, 1943, destroying papers identifying Jewish citizens. The inferno was successful and there were no casualties.

"She was a mother, there were people in her attic at great risk of being raided, and she was also involved in rescue missions after a traitor in the cell executed 12 colleagues and placed six others in captivity," says Martin.

But it was the relationship between Anna-Maria and a young German Jewish woman, Marlies Friedheim, whom she hosted in her attic for an astonishing three years and two months, that was to prove a profoundly pivotal force in both women's lives. At age 15 in 1935, Marlies moved to the Netherlands with her family after her brother Hans was the victim of an anti-semitic attack in their home-town of Essen, Germany, which she herself had witnessed, horrified.

"I always want to believe the best about the world," Marlies once told a friend, but her young life was scarred by the experience. Six years later, in 1941, she felt a creeping chill when Dutch Jews were ordered to carry cards identifying them by their religion. Some 160,000 Jews lived in the Netherlands, of whom 140,000 had Dutch ancestry. Soon, they were being rounded up for the ghetto.

"Marlies and Hans had been working on a farm and were sent to a clearance camp," says Martin. "The next step would be Auschwitz. But friends got them out of the transit camp, claiming they were of vital importance to agricultural production and they received a temporary reprieve."

Marlies called this "the most precious piece of paper I've ever had".

But back on the farm, they knew it was only a matter of time before the Germans would come.

"Hans went to hide with his old teacher on the other side of Amsterdam, while Marlies was taken to the safe house of Anna-Maria and Pim," says Martin.

"They turned up on the doorstep, and thus began the great friendship and also the love between these two women. Anna-Maria was aged 23 and Marlies was 22 when they met in the most terrible of circumstances."

RESPECT: Author Martin Sixsmith enjoys writing about tenacious women

For the next three years, Marlies sheltered in the attic, sharing the space, blankets and food with others who came and went, cared for and protected by the family downstairs.

MOST of the time she stayed in the attic, but when things were quiet she would slip downstairs to sit and talk or nurse the baby, and occasionally catch the fresh air in the garden. All who stayed were required to practice hurrying to the attic. Two minutes was the most they could take. Whenever she felt like crying, Anna-Maria would hand Marlies the baby and one day invited her to become Hanneke's godmother.

"She said she was so happy at being a mother that she wanted to share her happiness," says Martin. The remarkable bond lasted until Marlies died at the age of 100.

"They had been through so much together. Even when Marlies emigrated to Australia, there remained real solace in that friendship and they visited one another every few years. In some way, it could be said that Marlies was the Anne Frank who survived."

Throughout all her years offering people in search of shelter a place to hide, Anna-Maria spent the four years of the war not knowing if her younger brother Rein had survived.

"When the British Canadians liberated Holland, she only discovered he had survived when he drove up to the front of her house in a jeep and shouted her pet name."

Not surprisingly, there is already film interest in the story. Martin has form in this area.

The 2013 Oscar-nominated film Philomena, starring Dame Judi Dench and Steve Coogan, was based on his 2010 book about the Irish convent adoption scandal of the 1950s. He became close to the real-life Philomena and helped track down her son, who had been taken from her and sold, like countless others, to America for adoption.

"I like writing about strong, independent women, and I knew by the end of the cruise that I was going to write Anna-Maria's story," he adds today.

● *My Sins Go With Me: A Story of Heroism and Betrayal in the Dutch Resistance, by Martin Sixsmith (Simon & Schuster, £22) is out now. Visit expressbookshop.com or call 020 3176 3832. Free UK P&P on orders over £25*

30-SECOND CHALLENGE

JUST follow the instructions from left to right, starting with the number given to reach an answer at the end of the row. Set your own 30-second challenge. For the very young or arithmetically rusty, you have 30 seconds for the BEGINNER task.

For a greater challenge, try BEGINNER and INTERMEDIATE in 30 seconds. True mental gymnasts should try INTERMEDIATE and ADVANCED in 30 seconds together.

Today's answers can be found in the puzzles pullout

										YOUR ANSWERS
Beginner	52	÷4	-5	x6	+13	REVERSE THE DIGITS	TAKE THE SQUARE ROOT	+38	÷7	
Intermediate	39	x6	+81	80% OF THIS	+78	5/6 OF THIS	+33	3/7 OF THIS	-46	
Advanced	43	-36	x49	+174	7/11 OF THIS	-85	INCREASE BY 75%	-59	5/8 OF THIS	

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19
LOTTERY
3 7 13 15 21 52 23
THUNDERBALL
1 2 18 29 34 1

TUESDAY, JUNE 18
EUROMILLIONS 3 11 33 34 36 1 12
THUNDERBALL 3 9 12 15 34 3

MONDAY, JUNE 17
SET FOR LIFE 6 22 23 36 41 6

THE HEALTH LOTTERY

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19
9 14 20 34 42 5

TUESDAY, JUNE 18
25 30 34 36 45 39

The society benefiting from all draws in the month ending June 30, 2024, is LEW Health CIC T/A HL London West

PHONE POLL RESULTS

We asked in our poll on Tuesday:
Will Labour's policies result in job losses?

YES: 96%
NO: 4%

DO YOU HAVE A STORY OR A PHOTO?

If you have a story: **020 8612 7077** or email: **expressnews@reachplc.com**

If you have a photo: **020 8612 7171** or email: **expresspix@express.co.uk**

For general inquiries: **020 8612 7000**
WWW.EXPRESS.CO.UK FOR GREAT READER OFFERS

SUDOKU

Fill in all the squares so that each row, each column, and each 3x3 square contain all the digits from 1 to 9

	8		7		3		6	
	2			9			3	
		3				1		9
7			4		2			5
3	9	2	1		5	7		8
5			9		8			3
9		6				8		
		7		5	9		2	
	5		3		4		7	

This is the Quick Sudoku for the solver in a hurry.
For today's solution call:
09071 812 571
(Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge)
For extra clues call:
09013 225 602
(Calls cost 75p plus your telephone company's network access charge)
MORE PUZZLES – PULLOUT

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

5	3	2	9	8	4	6	1	7
8	9	7	6	2	1	4	3	5
6	4	1	7	3	5	8	2	9
7	5	8	4	1	2	3	9	6
2	1	4	3	9	6	5	7	8
3	6	9	8	5	7	2	4	1
1	7	5	2	6	3	9	8	4
9	2	6	1	4	8	7	5	3
4	8	3	5	7	9	1	6	2

Stamps take flight for Red Arrows 60th

By **Alan Jones**

Pictures: ROYAL MAIL

ROYAL Mail has issued a set of stamps to mark the 60th anniversary of the Red Arrows.

The main set of eight show the RAF display team's trademark red, white and blue sky trails.

An extra sheet of four stamps shows the red planes above landmarks such as Niagara Falls and the Eiffel Tower.

Set up in 1964 and giving its first displays in May 1965, the Red Arrows team is the showpiece of the RAF.

Since 1980 the pilots have flown BAE Hawk jets, giving standout performances across the world.

David Gold, Royal Mail's director of external affairs, said: "During important national celebrations such as His Majesty's Coronation and representing the UK globally, the Red Arrows have entertained us with spectacular displays. We are proud to mark their 60th season."

Sqn Ldr Jon Bond, call sign Red 1, said the stamps "will hopefully inspire many more people using the wonder of aviation, just like each of our colourful, dynamic displays".

First class flying...a selection of the stamps featuring Red Arrows' displays, with some of the original photos taken by serving RAF personnel

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Edited by HANNAH BRITT

Here comes the summer!

It's the official start of Great British summertime, and to celebrate we asked the experts how to make the most of the sunny season

IN THE PINK Nothing says summer like a chilled glass of rose – and you can upgrade it with this refreshing cocktail from wine expert Pip Dawes (marlo.wine).

You need: One bottle of rose, chilled; 4oz grapefruit liqueur; handful strawberries, sliced; one lemon, sliced; four sprigs of mint; soda water.

1 Add wine, liqueur, strawberries and lemon to a jug and stir to combine. Chill for up to four hours.

2 Divide between six wine glasses and top with chilled soda water and a sprig of mint.

OVER THE NET Wimbledon may be approaching, but this summer is all about badminton, according to Pinterest. Not only is it a fun and social game, it has health benefits too. Playing regularly provides a cardio workout, strengthens muscles and can even improve mental agility.

Try it in your garden or local park with this Badminton Easy Set, £34.99 (decathlon.co.uk).

BRILLIANT BBQ

Planning a barbecue? Give your meat that extra something with this clever idea from Graeme Hibbs, outdoor cooking expert for Sainsbury's.

"To keep your barbecue succulent and full of flavour, use a bouquet of your favourite herbs as a basting brush.

"Bunch the herbs, dip them in apple cider vinegar and brush the food while cooking. Vinegar keeps moisture in the meat while the herbs add a pleasant aromatic flavour."

BRIGHT & BEAUTIFUL

If you've tried dopamine dressing – filling your wardrobe with mood-boosting colours – this summer, take the same approach with your home.

"Dopamine decor is about making your home your happy place," says illustrator and designer Eleanor Bowmer.

"Experimenting with colours, textures and patterns will bring positive energy into your living space. Choose colours that make you feel good and don't be afraid to go bold."

Brighten up your kitchen with this colourful set of four Eleanor Bowmer x Pure Table Top Tumblers (puretabletop.com).

HERE WE GO!

Yes the Euros are under way, so if you're having people over to watch, make sure your TV is set up to enjoy the beautiful game.

"Activate 'sports mode' on your TV settings. This optimises the picture settings with football in mind.

"Next, adjust brightness, contrast and sharpness to ensure you're getting the best image possible," says Kevin Walmsley, audio visual expert at AO.com.

"And ensure the TV is placed perfectly – the ideal distance between you and the TV is around one and a half times the screen's diagonal measurement."

Kevin recommends the Samsung DU8500 55in 4K Ultra HD Smart TV for watching the Euros, which is on offer at £664 (ao.com).

PICK A TRIP

Can't agree with the kids about what to do over the holidays? Make a day trip jar, says parenting expert Rosie Joyce-Smith (parentinyourpocket.co.uk).

"To help plan your summer diary and avoid arguments, make a day trip jar.

"Let each child choose something free, for example a park or museum, and something that's a treat, for example a theatre trip or theme park."

Then all you have to do is pick one out of the jar and your day ahead is decided.

> **"To help plan summer and to avoid arguments, make a day trip jar**

FEED THE BIRDS

This is the perfect time to enjoy feathered visitors in your garden, says wildlife columnist and writer Stuart Winter.

"Summer gives birds a stage to showcase some of their most stunning attributes. Goldfinches, blue tits, chaffinches and greenfinches bring colour, while at dawn and dusk blackbirds and robins sing from the rooftops."

But keep topping up bird feeders.

"Keeping bird feeders well stocked with food such as sunflower seeds means adults can get plenty of nourishment while providing their chicks with caterpillars and bugs."

HEIGHT OF SUCCESS

Thrillseekers are in for a treat this summer as the UK's tallest and fastest roller coaster has opened at Thorpe Park in Surrey (pictured below). You'll definitely need a head for heights – Hyperia comes in at 236ft tall and has the highest loop in Europe.

Once on board, riders will hit dizzying speeds of more than 80mph as they whizz around the track. Tickets start at £29, visit thorpepark.com to find out more.

THE BIG FREEZE

Berries are in season, so try these delicious and vitamin C-packed strawberry ice lollies, says nutritionist Riya Lakhani-Kanji (nutravita.co.uk).

"Strawberries contain vitamins C and K, as well as fibre, folic acid, manganese and potassium," she says.

You need: Ten ripe strawberries, hulled and quartered; 3tbsp honey; two kiwis, peeled and sliced; squeeze of fresh lemon juice; 500ml coconut water; fresh mint leaves, torn.

1 Blend the strawberries until you get a chunky puree. Add the honey and lemon juice and blend again.

2 Fill four ice lolly moulds with a layer of strawberry puree. Add a few mint leaves and slices of kiwi, then carefully pour in the coconut water until the mould is almost full.

3 Give everything a gentle stir, then insert the sticks and freeze.

HIT THE BEACH

Research from Swizzels found that the nation's favourite summer holiday activity is a trip to the beach. Nearly half of the people quizzed said heading to the seaside was what made summer special.

And with 1,500 beaches up and down the country, you'll be spoiled for choice, whether you are looking for miles of golden sand or a sheltered pebbly cove.

So pack a picnic and head to the coast for some vitamin sea.

GLORIOUS GARDEN

Even the smallest outside space can be transformed into a relaxing haven.

Think cosy seating and sparkling lights so you can stay outside during the warmer evenings.

And it doesn't have to cost a fortune.

Head to OHS (onlinehomeshop.com) and you can pick up an Instagram-worthy egg chair for just £119, and Wickes has pretty solar-powered rattan lanterns for £9.50 (wickes.co.uk).

Just remember to keep bugs at bay with a scented candle.

"Anything with lemon, lavender, tea tree, eucalyptus or citronella will deter mosquitoes and midges," says home fragrance expert Shalin Balasuriya (spaceylon.co.uk).

THE GREAT OUTDOORS

You don't have to look far in the UK to find stunning scenery, so go wild and embrace the wellbeing benefits of camping.

"Camping brings out your inner child. From relaxing under the stars to cooking together, spending time outside connects you with nature, which is guaranteed to enhance wellbeing," says travel expert Octavia Coates (thewellheeledhippy.com).

"Waking up to the birds chirping and going to bed just after dark helps reset your circadian rhythm, boosting sleep, while spending time with loved ones can reconnect you as a family or couple."

COMPILED BY **MERNIE GILMORE**

I haven't had sex in eight years

Comedian Sofie Hagen has been voluntarily celibate for nearly 3,000 days - here she shares the lessons learned along the way

The last time Sofie Hagen had sex was November 19, 2015. Sofie had no idea that encounter would be followed by at least eight years of voluntary celibacy.

It's not that the 35-year-old – who identifies as non-binary – doesn't want sex.

They enjoy it and experience a desire for it but, after over a decade of "toxic sex", the prospect of acting on those desires with another person was beginning to make them panic.

"When I think about having sex with someone, my abdomen feels tight, I start to sweat, my eyelids are heavy," they explain.

And comedian Sofie, who lives in London, is by no means alone. Indeed, research reveals as a nation we're having less sex than ever, with Gen Z in particular getting less intimate than ever before.

For Sofie, obstacles to sex included some bruising previous encounters – from the man who told a friend that Sofie would sleep with anyone, to tearful intimacy with a man who had told them he loved someone else.

There was also an encounter that Sofie now recognises as rape.

"I did say no but then I just stopped saying no. I didn't fight him, I didn't punch him, I didn't call it rape," they explain.

"Even today, I feel a bit weird about calling it a rape, though it technically was. But the point is how it affects us and what we are carrying with us."

When a curious Sofie posted on social media asking if their followers had experienced similar struggles with sex, they were overwhelmed by 1800 replies in 48 hours. The response inspired Sofie to embark on a voyage of sexual discovery. While Sofie isn't actively looking for a new relationship, they are open to meaningful encounters and new connections, and so set about on a quest to get their sex life back on track.

Sofie's research soon found old fashioned sexual views are to blame. "Traditional male-dominated structures focus on men getting horny and women being available for the men's horniness," they explain.

"Everything else is irrelevant – including consent, queer sex, female pleasure, foreplay and conversation."

Therapist and author Justin Hancock agrees, and says we should "approach every individual body as unique". Drag king and comedian Jodie Mitchell adds: "Sex is just about enjoying bodies. You could have slept with 100 people and the 101st would still be a new body." Sofie says: "It sounds so simple, but I'd forgotten sex is supposed to be fun."

> I learned you can't be in the moment and in your body if you don't feel safe

A visit to the set of a feminist porn movie offered another revelation. The director encouraged the two female protagonists to articulate their desires and boundaries throughout the filming process.

"I'd internalised that talking during sex ruins the moment," says Sofie.

"To learn that not only does it not ruin sex, it makes it so much better and can be hot - now I can't imagine having sex without all the talking."

Discussions with sex therapist and psychologist Chantal Gautier introduced Sofie to the concept of "sexy bodies" and "sexy minds".

"You can want to have sex anywhere, any time and that's a sexy body," says Sofie, adding that men are more likely to fit this description. But people with sexy minds can't enjoy sex until the circumstances feel right.

"Maybe the dishes need doing, you have a meeting in an hour or you need his mother to not be home," they say, laughing.

"It's the opposite of what we learn - that women have to be available whenever."

Of the upmost importance in every instance is safety. "I learned you can't be in the moment and in your body if you don't feel safe," says Sofie. "Do I trust this person? Do I trust that I'm not going to be hurt?

"And that can be emotionally as well. If you're with someone where you don't trust 100 per cent that they would listen to your boundaries, it's very hard to be present in the moment, which is what's required to have good sex."

When it comes to getting intimate, Sofie is optimistic about the future. While they're not actively going out looking for sex, they are open to it happening if the opportunity arises.

"I want nice sex with nice people. I'm very nervous but it's exhilarating," says Sofie.

"When it happens again, it's going to be like the first time – in a good way."

INTERVIEW BY **CHARLOTTE HEATHCOTE**

Will I Ever Have Sex Again? by Sofie Hagen (£18.99, Blink) is out now

Get in touch!
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Linen lover

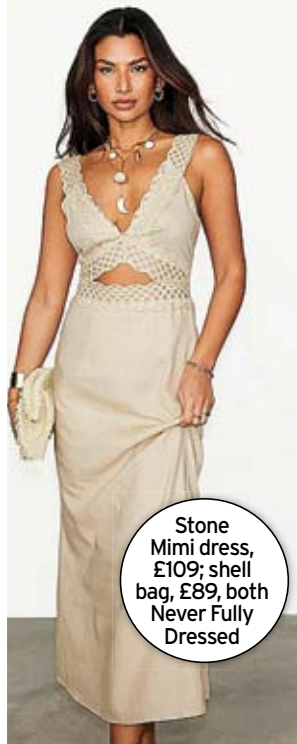
BY **EMMA JOHNSON**

Easy breezy and super-chic, nothing says summer like linen. The fabric is a seasonal go-to for designers and dates back to around 4,000BC when the Ancient Egyptians were making the most of its cooling qualities.

From floaty maxi dresses to perfect-for-work shirt dresses, and beach trousers to blazers, you will find the material everywhere at this time of year.

It looks sophisticated in neutral shades of beige, cream and stone, but you can opt for brighter linen looks too if you prefer.

If the price tag is an issue try linen-blend materials instead. You still get the stylish effect at a fraction of the cost.

As for the creases, either invest in a steamer or embrace them – they are all part of the fabric's charm.

Stone Mimi dress, £109; shell bag, £89, both Never Fully Dressed

Linen dress, £76; tote, £32.95; sunglasses, £35.95, all Seasalt Cornwall

Utility playsuit, £85; sandals, £145; seashell earrings, £35, all & Other Stories

Linen blend shirt dress, £79; espadrilles, £55, both White Stuff

Linen waistcoat, £14; wide-leg trousers, £17, both Nutmeg at Morrisons; accessories, stylist's own

100% linen shirt; £29.99; trousers, £35.99; sandals, £45.99, all Zara; necklace, stylist's own

We love TAN SANDALS

Clarks Orianna, £63, Simply Be

Disc trim, £145, Russell & Bromley

Woven, £16, Peacocks

Metal detail, £49.99, Mango

Shoon, £99, Moda in Pelle

Comfort wedge, £15, Tu

Arizona two-strap, £90, Office

Chunky, £29.99, New Look

Leather toe post, £125, FitFlop

Flat, £60, Aldo

TOP of the SHOPS

Hannah Britt finds out what's hot to shop this week

DRINK

Whether it's drunk alone or made into an old fashioned cocktail, Deacon Blended Scotch Whisky, £38, is delicious. A blend of smoky Speyside and peaty Islay malt whiskies, it has tasting notes of charred orange, sweet malty biscuits, woodsmoke and spice. Find it in store at Tesco and online at Amazon.

BABY

Much-loved cuddly toy brand Jellycat has elevated their collection for 2024 with the launch of the Luxe range. Made to be cherished, think velvety fabrics and delicate detailing, in all manner of designs, from bunnies and bears to dogs and moons. We love the Smudge Elephant, £30, from jellycat.com

SLEEP

An absolute game-changer, and a great gift for tired new parents, the Happiest Baby Snoo Smart Baby Cot, £1,395, helps newborns to settle and sleep with a soothing mixture of swaddling, rocking and white noise, all which mimic the sounds and sensations of the womb. Visit happiestbaby.co.uk to shop.

TREAT

Feathers and Wings is a small jewellery brand with beautifully designed pieces. The only dilemma is which one to choose, from necklaces to earrings, rings and more. Prices start from just £40 for the simple ball studs in sterling silver. We love this gold initial necklace, £110. Enjoy browsing at feathersandwings.co.uk

DINNER

Delivery dinner service Cook creates ready-to-heat-and-eat meals that are both tasty and healthy, taking the pressure off the time-poor. We love the New Parents Meal Box, £77.62, which contains 14 meals for one, enough for a whole week of dinners. There's fish pie, mac & cheese and more. Visit cookfood.net

expressyourself

The new age of retinol

Retinol – derived from vitamin A – is one of skincare's most hardworking ingredients, refining, resurfacing and refreshing the skin, ironing out fine lines and reducing pigmentation.

However, your favourite retinol products may need replacing soon as, under new EU legislation, restrictions will be placed on the concentration of retinol allowed in over-the-counter products like moisturisers and serums. Those for the face will have a 0.3 per cent limit of pure retinol, while those for the body can contain 0.05 per cent.

Dr Malvina Cunningham, consulting dermatologist and spokesperson for beauty brand And Begin, breaks it down…

Why have the new retinol rules been introduced?

The beauty industry is constantly evolving with new ingredients, delivery systems and formulations so for this reason, the legislation must be continuously reviewed too.

This latest law, enforced by the Scientific Committee of Consumer Safety (SCCS), aims to protect consumers from exceeding the total recommended level of vitamin A, which includes food and supplement sources.

BEAUTY NEWS with Hannah Britt

What happens if you do have too much vitamin A?

While vitamin A in its own entity is completely safe, if too much is applied topically on the skin it can cause dryness, flaking, irritation and for darker skin tones, hyperpigmentation.

And, if you ingest more than the RDA – over 3,000 micrograms – via supplements or things like oily fish, side effects can include liver damage, headaches, nausea, bone thinning and birth defects.

Does a lower dosage mean worse results?

Simply put: no. The top available concentration currently is 1 per cent but retinol that's 0.01 per cent or greater has been shown to have beneficial effects on the skin, including the signs of ageing.

When will this come into effect?

Restrictions will be rolled out over 36 months, starting at the end of 2024, meaning brands have three years to reformulate. Excitingly, it's likely to result in innovation when it comes to ingredients and formulations.

TOP PICKS UNDER 0.3%

Best for... BUDGET

The Ordinary Retinal 0.2 per cent Emulsion, £15.30 (theordinary.com), contains retinal, short for retinaldehyde, which is a retinoid and form of vitamin A. It tends to act faster than regular retinol. This serum is ideal for night time use and is a good option for experienced users.

Best for... BEGINNERS

Cerave Resurfacing Retinol Serum, £23 (lookfantastic.com), is a super-gentle formula containing a low dosage of retinol (0.3%), making it ideal for beginners. There's ceramides and niacinamide too to soothe the skin.

Best for... POTENCY

SkinCeuticals Retinol 0.3 Refining Night Cream, £80 (skinceuticals.co.uk), has the maximum concentration of

We love... SUMMER SCENTS

Viktor & Rolf Flowerbomb Tiger Lily, £95 (The Perfume Shop) is an exotic addition to the much loved franchise, with a summery twist of tiger lily, coconut milk and mango.

Elie Saab Girl of Now Rose Petal, £46 (John Lewis) is a whimsical fruity floral with pretty notes of pepper, peach, rose, blond woods and musk.

Akro Infuse, £80 (harrods.com) is a cuppa, bottled. Inspired by the freshness of oolong tea, think notes of bergamot, freesia, ambrox and vetiver.

Kayali Vanilla Candy Rock Sugar, from £28 (Sephora) smells good enough to eat, with sweet gourmand notes of pear, bubblegum and patchouli.

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maximum concentration of retinol under the new rules so a great option for those looking to test results of a 0.3 per cent product. Ideal for those with skin used to vitamin A.

Best for... MID RANGE
Medik8 Intelligent Retinol, £39 (medik8.com), is a well-priced product for its potency and effectiveness. It contains the highest concentration of retinol (0.3 per cent) allowed under the new law, alongside clever time-release tech to drip feed it to skin.

Best for... RETINOL ALTERNATIVE
Apeer Lift Night Cream, £84 (apeerbeauty.co.uk), contains next generation natural retinoid, retinART, a marine retinol alternative, which clinical trials show to be just as – if not more – effective in some as vitamin A.

■ **Follow Hannah on Instagram @hannahrbritt**

ASK THE EXPERT

Q Can I use adult suncream on my kids?

A Parenting expert Kirsty Ketley (kirstyketley.com) says: "Children can use sun cream marketed for adults, as long as the cream is a minimum of factor 30 and has the highest UV rating.

"Patch test first if your child has particularly sensitive skin, or opt for creams designed for sensitive skin. Water based creams are often better as they don't clog pores, allowing the skin to breathe, and can help combat prickly heat rashes.

"Suncream needs reapplying after being in the water or towel drying. Finally, never use tanning oils or accelerators on young skin."

La Roche Posay has a great range of suncare for the whole family, try Anthelios UVMune 400 Dermo-Paediatrics Invisible Spray SPF50+, £23.90 (Boots).

TRIED & TESTED

Collection Cosmetics Filter Face Palette in Make Me Matte Shade 1, £8.99 (Boots)
A great little multitasker for less than a tenner? Sign me up. This unassuming powder face palette from Collection contains all you need to add depth and definition to your make-up look.

Each of the four palettes is useful, cutting down your beauty waste. There's two blushers, one pinky and one peachy, for a flush of colour on the apples of the cheeks. There's a gentle brown to contour and shape, and there's a subtly shimmery highlighter to apply to the brow bone, nose arch and cheekbones to lift and finish.

The whole lot can be used on the eyes too, applied with fingertips – I especially like the mix of the pink blush and brown.

At £8.99 it's very good value, and as a little goes a long way, the palette will last you a long time.

Functional, effective and a total bargain – I love it.

BRILLIANT ON A BUDGET

My pick of the best beauty for £15 or less

Due to popular demand, Essence cosmetics have relaunched in high street favourite Wilko. With a pick and mix of products to choose from, I love the trusty **Lash Princess Curl & Volume Mascara in Black, £3.79.** Find it in stores and online.

C.O. Bigelow Lemon Lip Cream, £9.50 (debenhams.com) is a great pocket product. Ultra-emollient, it contains shea butter and lanolin to hydrate and maintain moisture levels throughout the day. It smells like lemon sherbert too – delicious.

With 18 sizzling shades to play with, working out at 55p each, the **W7 Sunny Seville Pressed Pigment Palette, £9.95** (w7makeup.co.uk) is a real summer beauty bargain. It has all you need to update your look for the season ahead.

Compiled by HANNAH BRITT

Mugler Alien Hypersense, £67 (The Perfume Shop) is warm and delicious, combining fruits, florals and woods with green mandarin, pear, jasmine sambac and cashmeran.

Dolce & Gabbana Light Blue Summer Vibes, £79 (lookfantastic.com) updates the brand's classic fragrance with notes of bergamot joining peach and cedarwood.

Narciso Rodriguez Musc Nude, £63 (lookfantastic.com) is a beautiful skin scent that holds musk as its star, brightening it with jasmine, rose and tonka bean.

Rabanne Olympea Parfum, £67 (The Perfume Shop) is the deepest scent in the Olympea collection so far – an ambery fragrance with pink pepper, sage, jasmine and vanilla bean.

Styles to tickle the fancy

Mike Ward previews tonight's TV

STARTING tonight on Channel 4 we have **OUTRAGEOUS HOMES** (*10pm*) with Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen. It's a four-part series in which the famously flamboyant interior designer will be visiting a series of extravagantly decorated homes up and down the country, at each of which, having seen first-hand what the owners have done with the place, he'll exclaim: "Gosh! That's outrageous!" Or words to that effect. You get the general idea.

"I am about to take you on a celebratory frolic through the outrageous homes of proud-to-be-different homeowners," Laurence is kind enough to warn us at the start.

"They're daring with their decor and wild with their designs.

"So get ready to lose your interior inhibitions."

My own response to that last suggestion would be: "No, thanks, Laurence. My inhibitions suit me just fine. They've served me well. Plus, I don't want my own house to look like a huge blancmange or make me feel as if I'm trapped inside a giant aquarium, which appears to be the kind of look you're impressed by, judging from the places you've chosen to feature in this opening episode."

But Laurence, of course, doesn't give two hoots what I think. And fair enough, why should he?

After all, I'm a man who recently had old-fashioned carpet laid in his home, albeit because the laminate was making the dog skid all over the shop.

Besides which, Laurence has been celebrating gaudiness and garishness ever since we first clapped eyes on him in the Nineties, on the original home improvement show, Changing Rooms, with handy Andy and smiley Carol, when for a while he persuaded even level-headed folk to go a bit doolally with their properties, decoratively speaking. So I doubt he'll be changing his outlook anytime soon.

Also, to be fair to the guy, his approach to this series is largely tongue-in-cheek.

He's not seriously suggesting we should mimic the styles we see here (tonight's include a Manchester terraced property that's decked out entirely in Seventies gear, a Cheshire cottage garden that's become a Wild West ranch, a Surrey semi that's a shrine to upcycling, and a house whose owner shares the place with more than 250 fish.

No, he's simply having a bit of fun and celebrating good old British eccentricity. No harm in that, is there?

Even so, he should maybe issue a stark warning to his viewers, to prevent the more impressionable ones doing something they'll come to regret.

"Don't try this at home," he should tell them.

"Unless you want to be in series two, of course, in which case knock yourself out."

PICKS OF THE DAY

Pets: The Supervet, C4, 8pm

Another visit to Fitzpatrick Referrals in Surrey to witness the dedicated work of expert vet Noel Fitzpatrick (left) and his team. This episode is a rescue special, recalling unforgettable tales of charming puppies – some of the cutest animals Noel and his colleagues have cared for since The Supervet began. These include Jack Russell Bella. She was admitted in 2018 aged just nine months, after accidentally falling from a carrier on a bike and suffering a badly fractured pelvis. Also featured is springer spaniel Poppy, (right, with Noel) who was seen in 2016. Then only three months old, the adorable puppy underwent treatment for terrible front leg deformities – some of the worst Noel had ever encountered.

Factual: Escape To The Farm With Kate Humble, C5, 7pm

Presenter and farm owner Kate Humble (left) continues looking into innovative ways that she can keep business thriving. She heads up to the Scottish Highlands to learn about how deer are managed there – and how healthy, wild venison is produced. After that, she takes a walk through magical ancient woodland Puzzlewood in the Forest of Dean, the site of an old iron ore works that has been used as a location for filming Doctor Who and Star Wars.

Lifestyle: George Clarke's Amazing Spaces, C4, 9pm

Tonight, on the first episode in the latest series of this homage to architecture and the creative use of small spaces, George (above) starts a trip to Denmark with a visit to a modern version of a Viking longhouse. He also looks into the idea of transforming a rusty scissor lift into a breathtaking cabin in the clouds. Other spaces featured are a four-wheeled beauty parlour and a new-build made of four shipping containers.

Film: Mrs Dalloway, BBC4, 10.30pm

Vanessa Redgrave (above) stars as politician's wife Clarissa Dalloway in this period drama set in 1920s London. As Mrs Dalloway is preparing for a society get-together, she thinks back over her life and the choices she has made. On learning of the troubles of shell-shocked war veteran Septimus Smith, she is reminded of a past romance and ponders what may have been. Co-starring Rupert Graves.

Current affairs: The Stormtrooper Scandal, BBC2, 9pm

Documentary about a controversial art sale involving NFTs (non-fungible tokens) – digital assets for which buyers pay real money. The Art Wars NFT sale involved digital images of pieces in a real-world collection of Star Wars-inspired Stormtrooper helmet designs by artists including Anish Kapoor and Damien Hirst. This programme tells the story of the contentious sale and what became of its organiser, London art curator Ben Moore (right).

DID YOU KNOW? Actor Rupert Graves, who played DI Lestrade in TV's Sherlock, had an unusual first job. Aged 16 he left his home town of Weston-super-Mare to join a circus and become a clown called Tomato.

Today's TV previews are on the previous page

All programmes are listed in British Summer Time (BST).

film ratings
★★★★★ Brilliant
★★★★ Very Good
★★★ Good
★★ Average
★ Bad

(R) Repeat

BBC One

6.00am Breakfast News headlines.
9.30 Morning Live Magazine.
10.45 Scam Interceptors A woman is asked to give hundreds of pounds to scammers.
11.15 Homes Under the Hammer Semi-detached houses in Stoke, Wirral and Gillingham.
12.15pm Bargain Hunt (R)
1.00 BBC News at One; Weather
1.35 Regional News; Weather
1.45 BBC News at One; Weather
2.00 Hope Street Aidan Hunter is bemused when Finn takes an interest in the theft of his boat.
2.45 Animal Park (R)
3.15 Escape to the Country Steve Brown helps a couple who are looking for a retirement property in the Lake District.
4.00 LIVE **MOTD: UEFA Euro 2024** Denmark v England (kick-off 5.00pm). Gary Lineker presents coverage of the Group C match from Frankfurt Arena, as the two sides meet for the first time since their semi-final battle at Euro 2020. With commentary by Guy Mowbray and Alan Shearer.

BBC Two

6.30am Scam Interceptors (R)
7.30 Clive Myrie's Caribbean Adventure Puerto Plata. (R)
8.00 Sign Zone: Gardeners' World From Birmingham. (R)
9.00 BBC News Headlines.
12.15pm Politics Live The latest stories from Westminster.
1.00 LIVE **Tennis: Queen's** The cinch Championships. Clare Balding presents coverage of day four of the men's grass-court tournament at Queen's Club, featuring matches from the second round. British wild card Ryan Peniston was eliminated at this stage last year, losing 6-3, 6-4 to second seed Holger Rune.
6.00 Richard Osman's House of Games With Jasmine Harman, Dave Johns, Suzannah Lipscomb and Jason Mohammad. (R)
6.30 Robson Green's Weekend Escapes The actor is joined by his uncle Matheson Green and nephew Daymon Britton, heading to Rothbury in Northumberland to sample a guided bird-watching walk. (R)

ITV1

6.00am Good Morning Britain
9.00 Lorraine Entertainment news.
10.00 This Morning Topical daily magazine, featuring a mix of celebrity chat, showbusiness news, advice and discussion.
12.30pm ITV News; Weather
12.50 Regional News; Weather
1.00 LIVE **UEFA Euro 2024** Slovenia v Serbia (kick-off 2.00pm). Laura Woods presents coverage of the Group C match from Munich Football Arena. This will be only the fifth meeting between the two countries, with both sides winning one of the previous four clashes.
4.15 LIVE **ITV Racing: Royal Ascot** Francesca Cumani and Ed Chamberlin present further coverage of the third day of the meeting, including feature the 4.25 Gold Cup, plus races at 5.05 and 5.40. Coverage continues on ITV4.
6.00 Regional News; Weather
6.20 Party Election Broadcast By the Reform UK.
6.30 ITV Evening News; Weather

Channel 4

6.25am Cheers Double bill. (R)
7.15 Everybody Loves Raymond Four episodes. (R)
9.05 Frasier Four episodes. (R)
11.05 Great Canal Journeys (R)
12.05pm Channel 4 News
12.10 Help! We Bought a Village (R)
1.10 Car S.O.S Fuzz Townshend and Tim Shaw secretly restore an Aston Martin DB6. (R)
2.10 Countdown With Greg Rusedski joining Susie Dent.
3.00 A Place in the Sun Double bill. Lee Juggurnauth shows a couple five properties on Crete; Lee Juggurnauth helps a couple find a home on Spain's Costa Blanca. (R)
5.00 Sun, Sea and Selling Houses Gordon and Debbie from Liverpool want to enjoy their retirement in a Spanish home-from-home.
6.00 Four in a Bed Katie and Rosie host at Isabella's Yard in Stamford, Lincolnshire. (R)
6.30 The Simpsons Bart goes cycling with Marge on her new tandem, only to be laughed at by local bullies. (R)

Channel 5

6.00am Milkshake! Children's TV.
9.15 Jeremy Vine Discussion.
11.15 Storm Huntley Debate on the day's talking points continues.
12.45pm Friends Double bill. Monica prepares a Valentine's Day surprise; Joey confesses his feelings to Rachel. (R)
1.40 5 News at Lunchtime
1.45 Home and Away Felicity crashes Harper and Tane's post-workout meal. (R)
2.20 FILM **Set Up By My Lover** (2021, PG) A woman's life turns into a living nightmare when she becomes the prime suspect in her boss's murder. Drama, with Camille Stopps and Anthony Grant. ★★
4.00 Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun In Benidorm, familiar faces and new characters live the dream in the Costa sun. (R)
5.00 5 News at 5 Headlines.
6.00 Party Election Broadcast By the Scottish National Party.
6.05 Police Interceptors Officers bust a large-scale cannabis farm and police chase a stolen Renault. (R); 5 News Update

8pm, QUESTION TIME LEADERS' SPECIAL: Fiona Bruce

8pm, INSIDE THE FACTORY…: Gregg Wallace and Cherry Healey

1pm, UEFA EURO 2024: Aleksandar Mitrovic

10pm, OUTRAGEOUS HOMES: Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen

7pm, ESCAPE TO THE FARM: Kate Humble and Nick Richards

BBC One (7–12 midnight)

7.30 BBC News at Six A round-up of all the latest headlines, in-depth interviews and analysis of political developments and current affairs. Plus, the day's sports stories and weather reports.
7.45 Regional News; Weather
8.00 Question Time Leaders' Special Fiona Bruce presents a two-hour leaders' special from York, with the Conservative Party's Rishi Sunak, Keir Starmer of the Labour Party, the Liberal Democrats' Ed Davey and John Swinney of the Scottish National Party answering questions from the studio audience for 30 minutes each. Previous debates have been bad tempered, but will the format mean we are in for a more civilised discussion as they make their cases?
10.00 BBC News at Ten
10.30 Regional News; Weather
10.40 The Outlaws Ben finds himself in a tough spot with Rani and he is left with a difficult choice when old feelings are rekindled. The other outlaws must fight personal battles and tie up emotional loose ends.
11.40 Newscast BBC journalists including Laura Kuenssberg, Adam Fleming and Chris Mason host a weekly round-up of events from the General Election campaign.
12.10am Rebus. In the wake of a horrific attack, John faces difficult questions from Gill Templer and Malcolm Fox about his dealings with both Cafferty and Michael. (R) **12.55** Euro 2024 Match Replay. Denmark v England. **2.35** Weather for the Week Ahead **2.40-6.00am** BBC News

BBC Two (7–12 midnight)

7.00 The One Show Alex Jones and Vernon Kay present the live magazine show.
7.30 EastEnders The residents of Walford learn the money from Lola's fundraiser has been stolen and Phil reveals to Albie that he is his dad.
8.00 Inside the Factory XL: Diggers Gregg Wallace and Cherry Healey get special access to the JCB factory in Rocester in Staffordshire, where as many as a hundred iconic yellow diggers are made every single day. (R)
9.00 The Stormtrooper Scandal Based on Star Wars universe, Art Wars was a collection of over 1,100 Stormtrooper helmets, bearing customised designs by some of the world's biggest artists, from Jake and Dinos Chapman to Anish Kapoor and Damien Hirst. But the helmets were only available online as NFTs, or non-fungible tokens. This is the story of London art curator Ben Moore and the sale of those controversial helmets.
10.30 Newsnight Headline analysis presented by Kirsty Wark.
11.05 MOTD: UEFA Euro 2024 Highlights Alex Scott presents the latest action from Germany, featuring Denmark v England at Frankfurt Arena, Slovenia v Serbia at Munich Football Arena, and Spain v Italy at Arena AufSchalke.
12.05am Sign Zone: Springwatch. Chris Packham and Michaela Strachan introduce a medley of live nests at RSPB Arne. (R) **1.05** Sign Zone: Doctor Who (R) **1.50** Sign Zone: Lost Boys and Fairies (R) **2.50** Sign Zone: On Thin Ice: Putin vs Greenpeace (R) **3.20-6.15am** This Is BBC Two

ITV1 (7–12 midnight)

7.15 LIVE **UEFA Euro 2024** Spain v Italy (Kick-off 8.00pm). Coverage of the Group B match from Arena AufSchalke in Gelsenkirchen, as both sides play their second group game of the campaign. These two teams faced each other in the semi-finals of Euro 2020, as Italy came out on top to reach the final thanks to a 4-2 penalty shootout win after the game ended 1-1. Former Chelsea striker Alvaro Morata cancelled out Federico Chiesa's goal to take the game to extra-time, before Arsenal's Jorginho scored the crucial penalty for Italy to set up a showpiece final against England. Both teams have made winning starts this time around, with Spain impressing in a 3-0 victory over Croatia, and Italy having to work somewhat harder in coming back from behind to eventually prevail 2-1 against Albania. Mark Pougatch presents, with analysis from Ian Wright, Roy Keane and Gary Neville, and commentary by Clive Tyldesley and Ally McCoist.
10.30 ITV News; Weather
11.00 Regional News; Weather
11.15 Emergency Nurses: A&E Stories The emergency nurses are faced with severed arteries, dislocated joints, numerous broken bones and a rather large bump in children's emergency department. (R)
12.15am Made in Britain. Meet the team pumping out paint and luxury wallpaper for the most discerning of DIYers. (R) **12.45** Shop on TV **3.00** Long Lost Family: Born Without Trace (R) **3.50** Unwind with ITV **5.05-6.00am** Katie Piper's Breakfast Show. With Danny Wallace and Al Murray. (R)

Channel 4 (7–12 midnight)

7.00 Channel 4 News A round-up of all the latest headlines, interviews and analysis of political developments and current affairs. Plus, the day's leading stories and weather.
7.55 Party Election Broadcast By Plaid Cymru.
8.00 The Supervet: Noel Fitzpatrick A 'puppy special' of the Documentary recalling the amazing stories of some of the youngest, fluffiest animals for whom Noel has provided life-saving treatment since The Supervet began.
9.00 NEW **George Clarke's Amazing Spaces** George has the idea of turning a rusty scissor lift into a cabin in the sky and starts his Denmark trip with a visit to a modern take on the old Viking longhouse.
10.00 NEW **Outrageous Homes** Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen celebrates great British visionaries, eccentrics and proud-to-be-different homeowners. He begins by meeting Dawn, whose home was owned by Felix Dennis.
11.05 Celebrity Gogglebox The famous faces watch The Piano, Bridgerton, Celebrity Bridge of Lies, The Sky at Night, UK's Strongest Man 2024, The World's Most Luxurious Retirement Homes and Scam Interceptors. (R)
12.05am 24 Hours in A&E (R) **1.00** Super Surgeons: A Chance at Life (R) **1.55** Ramsay's 24 Hours to Hell and Back (R) **2.40** The Simpsons (R) **3.05** FILM Ladies Only (2021, 12) Documentary. ★★★ **4.30** Grand Designs Australia (R) **5.20** Frasier (R) **5.45-6.25am** Countdown (R)

Channel 5 (7–12 midnight)

7.00 Escape to the Farm with Kate Humble The presenter takes a trip to the Scottish Highlands to see how deer are managed there, and how the animals can be used to produce healthy wild venison; 5 News Update
8.00 Happy Campers: The Caravan Park The British weather is reminding guests of what a gamble a staycation can sometimes be. For newly arrived campers, putting up their tent in high winds and lashing rain is not ideal.
9.00 Cold Call With nowhere else to turn and tensions rising, June and Kirk are both pushed to breaking point. Conclusion of the drama about a woman who falls victim to fraud, starring Sally Lindsay and Paul Higgins. Last in series. (R)
10.00 HMP Full Sutton: Evil Behind Bars Documentary exploring life inside HMP Full Sutton, a men's high security prison in the East Riding of Yorkshire which has been home to some of Britain's most notorious criminals. (R)
11.25 FILM **Godzilla: King of the Monsters** (2019, 12) The Monarch agency face off against an army of creatures, including Godzilla, Mothra, Rodan and King Ghidorah. Fantasy adventure sequel, starring Vera Farmiga. ★★★
1.45am PlayOJO Live Casino Show **3.45** Call the Bailiffs: Time to Pay Up. Mark and Virgil have a High Court writ to enforce at a fast-food restaurant. (R) **4.35** Britain by Bike with Larry & George Lamb. On the Pembrokeshire coast. (R) **5.25** Nick's Quest (R) **5.50-6.00am** Entertainment News on 5 (R)

ITV2 Freeview 6

6.00am CITV **9.00** World's Funniest Videos **9.30** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **10.00** Love Bites **12.00noon** Dress to Impress **1.00** Deal or No Deal **2.00** Family Fortunes **3.00** Veronica Mars **4.00** Dawson's Creek **5.00** Celebrity Supermarket Sweep

6.00 Celebrity Catchphrase With Nicola Coughlan and Toyah Willcox.

7.00 Deal or No Deal Gameshow.

8.00 The Masked Singer US Three new mystery celebrities enter the game on DC Superheroes Night.

9.00 Love Island Things heat up as the islanders keep their eyes on the prize.

10.05 Tell Me Everything Jonny is on top of the world, but an exam triggers a setback he didn't see coming.

11.05 Family Guy Double bill.

12.05am American Dad! **1.10** Celebrity Karaoke Club **2.10** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.40** Unwind with ITV **3.00-6.00am** Teleshopping

ITVBe Freeview 28

7.00am Unwind with ITV **7.05** Sugar Showdown **7.35** The Real Housewives of Cheshire **8.35** Masters of Flip **9.35** Buying and Selling **10.35** The Real Housewives of Cheshire **11.35** The Real Housewives of Atlanta **12.30pm** The Real Housewives of New Jersey **1.20** The Only Way Is Essex **2.05** Dinner Date **3.05** Million Dollar Listing: LA **4.00** The Real Housewives of Atlanta **5.00** The Real Housewives of Salt Lake City

6.00 Masters of Flip Dave and Kortney Wilson fix up an outdated house.

7.00 Million Dollar Listing: LA Altman throws a lavish launch event.

8.00 Dinner Date Alex is looking for love.

9.00 Inside M&S Davina McCall pitches to the company's lingerie team.

10.00 My Mum, Your Dad Australia It's now time for the Blessing Ceremony.

11.35 Ready to Mingle A shocking truth is revealed on the penultimate day.

12.30-1.00am Unwind with ITV

BBC3 Freeview 23

7.00pm Top Gear With Chris Evans.

8.00 The Traitors US A special guest turns up for a mission that proves too much for some players.

9.00 FILM **Only You** (2019, 15) A chance meeting on New Year's Eve results in a passionate relationship. Romantic drama, starring Laia Costa and Josh O'Connor. ★★★

10.55 Dreaming Whilst Black Double bill. Comedy about an aspiring film-maker; Kwabena moonlights as a delivery driver to finance his film.

11.50 Paranormal: The Village That Saw Aliens The biggest mass UFO sighting in Britain.

12.20am Paranormal: The Village That Saw Aliens **12.50** Confessions of a Teenage Fraudster **1.35** Catch Her If You Can **2.05** Dreaming Whilst Black **3.00** Press X to Continue **3.10-3.55am** Confessions of a Teenage Fraudster

BBC4 Freeview 9

7.00pm Great British Railway Journeys Michael Portillo picks up his rail journey from Warwick to Rye.

7.30 Villages by the Sea Ben Robinson visits Charlestown.

8.00 Tales of the Tardis Doctors and old friends reunite to remember their travels in space and time.

9.15 Talking Doctor Who As part of the 60th anniversary celebrations of Doctor Who, David Tennant tells the story of the Doctor's classic era.

10.15 Eileen Atkins Remembers Mrs Dalloway Eileen Atkins reflects on her 1997 film version of Virginia Woolf's Mrs Dalloway.

10.30 FILM **Mrs Dalloway** (1997, 12) Romantic drama, with Vanessa Redgrave and Rupert Graves. ★★★

12.05am Glastonbury: 50 Years and Counting **1.45** Great British Railway Journeys **2.15** Villages by the Sea **2.45-4.00am** Tales of the Tardis

GB News F'view 236

6.00am Breakfast with Stephen and Ellie **9.30** Britain's Newsroom **12.00noon** Good Afternoon Britain **3.00** Martin Daubney. Updates.

6.00 Dewbs & Co Plain-speaking, straight-talking – Michelle Dewberry delivers her take on the day's news.

7.00 Vote 2024: The People Decide All the twists and turns as parties try to win the keys to Number 10.

8.00 State of the Nation The countdown to election day is on.

9.00 Patrick Christys Tonight Two hours of discussion and debate.

11.00 Headliners An all-star comedy cast take an intelligent and insightful look at tomorrow's headlines. With Simon Evans and Dominic Frisby.

12.00m't Vote 2024: The People Decide **1.00** State of the Nation **2.00** Headliners Replay **3.00** Patrick Christys Tonight Replay **5.00-6.00am** Headliners Replay

Dave Freeview 19

6.00am Teleshopping **7.10** Yianni: Supercar Customiser **8.00** Special Ops: Crime Squad UK **9.00** James May on the Moon **10.00** Top Gear **12.00noon** Storage Hunters UK **2.00** Extreme Fishing with Robson Green **3.00** Top Gear **5.00** The Hairy Bikers' Chicken and Egg

6.00 Rick Stein's Secret France The chef concludes his tour with trips to the Languedoc and Provence.

7.00 Would I Lie to You? With Danny Dyer, Jon Richardson and Joe Lycett.

7.40 Richard Osman's House of Games

9.00 QI XL With Andy Hamilton, Rich Hall, Phill Jupitus and Alan Davies.

10.00 Have I Got a Bit More News for You

11.00 Taskmaster With Lou Sanders, Sian Gibson, Paul Sinha and Joe Thomas.

12.00m't Mock the Week **12.40** Alan Davies: As Yet Untitled **1.40** Dave Gorman: Modern Life Is Goodish **2.45** Live at the Apollo **3.30** Whose Line Is It Anyway? USA **4.00-6.00am** Teleshopping

Drama Freeview 20

6.00am Teleshopping **7.10** London's Burning **8.00** Doctors **9.20** Classic Holby City **10.40** Classic Casualty **11.40** The Bill **12.40pm** Classic EastEnders **2.00** London's Burning **3.00** Lovejoy **4.10** Tenko **5.10** Birds of a Feather

6.00 Waiting for God Comedy series.

6.40 Are You Being Served? Captain Peacock gains an executive perk.

7.20 Last of the Summer Wine Truly turns detective. Frank Thornton stars.

8.00 Father Brown Sid and the cleric try to find the mythical Lannington Rosary.

9.00 A Small Light Miep and Jan's marriage is tested when he ignores her plea to abandon a dangerous mission.

10.05 New Tricks The detectives investigate the murder of an immigrant.

11.25 Soldier, Soldier The men take part in a training exercise. Robson Greene stars.

12.35am Footballers' Wives. Donna throws Ian out. **1.40** Lovejoy **2.50** Classic Holby City **4.00-6.00am** Teleshopping

E4 Freeview 13

6.00am Hollyoaks **7.00** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA **9.00** The Goldbergs **10.00** Young Sheldon **11.00** Modern Family **12.00noon** The Big Bang Theory: four episodes **2.00** The Goldbergs **3.00** Modern Family **4.00** Young Sheldon **5.00** The Big Bang Theory: double bill

6.00 The Big Bang Theory Double bill.

7.00 Hollyoaks Abe praises Theresa.

7.30 Come Dine with Me Taxi driver Jamie serves up a fine menu in Edinburgh.

8.00 Dance Moms Melissa reveals that she will do anything to get her daughter back on top. Plus, Kelly angers Abby.

9.00 Gogglebox Opinions on shows including Crufts, and This Is Going to Hurt.

10.00 Naked Attraction Dating show.

11.05 First Dates A pilot finds it difficult to let her guard down in the restaurant.

12.05am The Big Bang Theory **1.05** Rick and Morty **1.35** Smiling Friends **2.10** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **3.00** Dance Moms **3.50-4.40am** Modern Family

More4 Freeview 18

8.55am A Place in the Sun **10.25** A New Life in the Sun **11.25** Find It, Fix It, Flog It **12.30pm** Come Dine with Me **3.10** Four in a Bed: five episodes **5.50** Chateau DIY

6.55 Car S.O.S The boys take on a 1963 Citroen HY Van for a family whose lives were torn apart by the Manchester arena suicide bombing in 2017.

7.55 Grand Designs Kevin McCloud follows the progress of Nathan and Amye as they build a giant cathedral-like property modelled on Dutch barn-style houses, but with a contemporary twist.

9.00 24 Hours in A&E A 51-year-old is brought to resus after coming off his bike.

10.00 Rescue: Extreme Medics The air ambulance is dispatched to two serious road traffic collisions.

11.05 24 Hours in A&E Three boys are admitted for very different reasons.

12.05am 999: On the Front Line **1.10** Rescue: Extreme Medics **2.15** 24 Hours in A&E **3.20-3.45am** A Place in the Sun

Variations & S4C

WALES As BBC1 except: 1.35-1.45pm BBC Wales Today; Weather **7.45-8.00** BBC Wales Today. The latest headlines; Weather **10.30-10.40pm** BBC Wales Today; Weather

MERIDIAN As ITV1 except: 12.50-1.00pm ITV News Meridian **6.00-6.20** ITV News Meridian **11.00-11.15pm** ITV News Meridian

CENTRAL As ITV1 except: 12.50-1.00pm ITV News Central **6.00-6.20** ITV News Central. Reports. **11.00-11.15pm** ITV News Central

ITV WALES As ITV1 except: 12.50-1.00pm ITV News Cymru Wales **6.00** ITV News Wales at Six. The latest headlines. **6.20-6.30** Party Election Broadcast. By the Welsh Green Party. **11.00-11.15pm** ITV News Cymru Wales

WEST As ITV1 except: 12.50-1.00pm ITV News West Country **6.00-6.20** ITV News West Country. The latest headlines. **11.00-11.15pm** ITV News West Country. The latest reports.

ANGLIA As ITV1 except: 12.50-1.00pm ITV News Anglia **6.00-6.20** ITV News Anglia **11.00-11.15pm** ITV News Anglia

WESTCOUNTRY As ITV1 except: 12.50-1.00pm ITV News West Country. Headlines. **6.00-6.20** ITV News West Country **11.00-11.15pm** ITV News West Country

S4C 6.00am Cyw **12.00noon** Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd **12.05pm** Bois y Rhondda **12.30** Heno **1.00** Ein Llwybrau Celtaidd **1.30** Cerys Matthews a'r Goeden Faled **2.00** Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd **2.05** Prynhawn Da **3.00** Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd **3.05** Cynefin **4.00** Awr Fawr **5.00** Stwnsh **6.00** Dan Do. Properties in Llanelli, Abergavenny and Anglesey. **6.30** Arfordir Cymru: Bae Ceredigion. Bedwyr Rees journeys from the River Mawddach to Machynlleth. **6.57** Newyddion S4C **7.00** Heno. Magazine. **7.30** Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd **8.00** Pobol y Cwm. Rhys is inconsolable after catching Ffion and Mathew kissing. **8.25** Rownd a Rownd. Iolo executes the next part of his cunning plan. **8.55** Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd **9.00** Am Dro! Walks with Alwyn Humphreys, Sue Roderick, Emma Jenkins and Owain Wyn Evans. **10.00** Y Llinell Las. The officers deal with incidents involving county line drugs and knife threats. **11.00** Grid. The daily challenges facing a young autistic person from north Wales. **11.15-11.50pm** Cais Quinnell. Scott Quinnell tries out various new and interesting activities.

Sport

SKY SPORTS MAIN EVENT

6.00am SSN Euro Report **7.00** Good Morning Euros. Round-up of the all the news.
10.00 LIVE **Tennis** The Berlin Ladies Open.
3.00pm LIVE **ICC Men's T20 World Cup** Afghanistan v India. Coverage of the Super Eight match from Kensington Oval in Bridgetown.
7.00 LIVE **Vitality T20 Blast Cricket** Yorkshire Vikings v Lancashire Lightning. Coverage of the North Group match from Headingley, Leeds.
10.30 LIVE **PGA Tour Golf** The Travelers Championship. Coverage of day one of the tournament from TPC River Highlands in Connecticut, as Keegan Bradley looks to defend the title he won last year. The American was victorious in 2023 after finishing three strokes clear of Zan Blair and Brian Harman.
11.00 LIVE **Women's PGA Championship** The KPMG Women's PGA Championship.
3.00am LIVE **ICC Men's T20 World Cup** Australia v Bangladesh. The Super Eight match.
5.30-6.00am SSN Euro Report. Updates.

SKY SPORTS CRICKET

6.00am ICC Men's T20 World Cup **1.40pm** Best of ICC WT20 **2.00** ICC Men's T20 World Cup
3.00 LIVE **ICC Men's T20 World Cup** Afghanistan v India. Coverage of the Super Eight match from Kensington Oval in Bridgetown, Barbados.
7.00 LIVE **Vitality T20 Blast Cricket** Yorkshire Vikings v Lancashire Lightning. Coverage of the North Group match from Headingley, Leeds. This meeting last year saw the Vikings come out on top with a 15-run victory against their Roses rivals. Dawid Malan hit 83 for Yorkshire as they made 195-6, before Lancashire could only make 180-8 in their reply as their stellar batting line-up couldn't chase down their target.
10.30 ICC Men's T20 World Cup **11.30** ICC Men's T20 World Cup. New Zealand v West Indies.
12.00m't ICC Men's T20 World Cup
1.00 LIVE **ICC Men's T20 World Cup** Australia v Bangladesh. Coverage of the Super Eight match from Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in North Sound.
5.30-6.00am Best of ICC WT20. Highlights.

SKY SPORTS FOOTBALL

6.00am EFL **7.00** EFL Rivalries **8.30** EFL **9.00** EFL Greatest Games **10.00** EFL Cup Retro
12.00noon EFL Greatest Games **1.00** EFL Cup Highlights **2.00** EFL **5.00** EFL Greatest Games **7.00** EFL Cup Retro **8.00** EFL **9.00** EFL **10.00** EFL **11.00** Championship Season Review
12.00m't SPFL Greatest Games **2.00** There's Only One Sauzee **2.30** Craig Brown: My Scotland **3.00** SPFL Special: Celtic's Invincibles **4.00** 1983: When Aberdeen Ruled Europe **5.00** Dundee United – Champions 83 **5.30-6.00am** Old Firm Derby Best Goals

TNT SPORTS 1

6.00am UEFA Champions League **9.00** UEFA Europa League **1.00pm** UEFA Champions League **4.00** MLB Highlights **5.00** NBA Action **5.30** MLB: Off the Bat. A round-up of action.
6.00 LIVE **MLB** Tampa Bay Rays v Minnesota Twins (Start time 6.10pm). From Target Field.
9.15 TNT Sports Reload **9.30** What Went Down **10.00** UFC: The Ultimate Fighter **11.00** Rio Ferdinand Meets **11.15** UFC Main Event
12.15am UFC Fight Flashback **12.45** Fight Inc: Inside the UFC **3.45** UFC: The Ultimate Fighter **4.45** TNT Sports Goals Reload **5.00-6.00am** TNT Sports Goals Reload

TNT SPORTS 2

6.00am Premier League Legends **7.00** Premier League Stories **7.30** Ultimate Pool **11.30** European Rally Championship Highlights
12.00noon EuroCup Basketball **5.00** WWE Friday Night SmackDown. Action from OVO Hydro in Glasgow. **6.30** WWE Monday Night Raw
9.00 LIVE **MLB** New York Yankees v Baltimore Orioles (Start time 9.05pm). At Yankee Stadium.
12.15am MLB: Off the Bat. A round-up of action. **12.45** Badminton **2.45** Badminton Weekly **3.00-6.00am** MotoGP Classics

EUROSPORT 1

6.00am Bennetts British Superbikes Extra **7.00** European Fencing Championships **8.00** Olympic Games: Chasing Glory **9.00** Mountain Biking **10.55** Cycling: Women's Tour of Switzerland **11.50** Cycling: U23 Giro d'Italia
12.50pm LIVE **Cycling: French Road Championships** The women's time-trial.
2.15 Olympic Games: The Power of the Olympics
2.45 LIVE **Cycling: French Road Championships** The men's time-trial from Saint-Martin-de-Landelles.
4.30 Triathlon **5.00** Cliff Diving. Round two.
6.00 LIVE **Powerlifting** The World Classic Championships. From Druskininkai, featuring the women's 69kg and men's 93kg disciplines.
9.00 Cycling: French Road Championships **10.00** Cycling: French Road Championships **11.00** Olympic Games: Breaking Life
12.00m't World Superbikes **1.00** European Fencing Championships **2.00** Cycling: French Road Championships **4.00** European Fencing Championships **5.00-6.00am** World Superbikes

BEST OF THE REST – LIVE SPORT

7.30-10.15pm LIVE **Betfred Super League** Castleford Tigers v Hull Kingston Rovers (kick-off 8.00pm). Coverage of the match from Mend-A-Hose Jungle. (Sky Sports Action)

Entertainment & Factual

ITV3 — Freeview 10

6.00am Classic Emmerdale **7.00** Classic Coronation Street **8.05** Agatha Christie's Poirot **10.25** The Royal **11.35** Heartbeat **1.40pm** Classic Emmerdale **2.40** Classic Coronation Street **3.50** Inspector Morse **6.00** Heartbeat **8.00** Vera **10.00** Wire in the Blood **11.45pm-12.35am** The Royal

ITV4 — Freeview 26

6.00am The Protectors **6.25** Minder **7.20** The Sweeney **8.20** The Return of Sherlock Holmes **9.30** ITV Racing: The Opening Show **10.35** UEFA Euro 2024 Highlights **11.35** The Return of Sherlock Holmes **12.45pm** River Monsters **1.15** British Touring Cars **1.30** LIVE ITV Racing: Royal Ascot. The first three races of the third day. **4.25** The Derby Through the Years **4.40** The Sweeney **5.50** LIVE ITV Racing: Royal Ascot **6.30** River Monsters **7.00** The Motorbike Show **8.00** Junk and Disorderly **9.00** The 1% Club **10.00** FILM Death Race (2008/15) Sci-fi thriller, starring Jason Statham, Joan Allen and Ian McShane. ★★★ **12.10am** Minder **1.10** The Chase Celebrity Christmas Special **2.05** Auto Mundial **2.30-3.00am** Motorsport Mundial

5STAR — Freeview 32

8.00am Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun **10.00** Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords **11.00** Traffic Cops **2.00pm** Police Interceptors **5.00** Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly **6.00** Home and Away **7.00** GPs: Behind Closed Doors **8.00** Casualty 24/7: Every Second Counts **9.00** A&E After Dark **10.00** 999: Emergency Call Out **11.00** Ambulance: Code Red **12.00m't** Skin A&E **1.00** It's Your Fault I'm Fat **2.00-2.50am** Casualty 24/7: Every Second Counts

REALLY — Freeview 17

6.00am Fantasy Homes by the Sea **7.00** Cruise TV with LoveitBookit **8.00** The Repair Shop **1.00pm** Money for Nothing **2.00** The Repair Shop **3.00** Celebrity Antiques Road Trip **5.00** The Yorkshire Auction House **7.00** Antiques Road Trip **9.00** Who Do You Think You Are? **10.00** The Hotel Inspector **11.00** Help! My House Is Haunted **12.00m't** Unexplained: Caught on Camera **1.00-2.00am** Paranormal: Caught on Camera

5ACTION — Freeview 33

9.00am Car Pound Cops **9.25** Outback Truckers **10.25** Traffic Cops **11.25** FILM Cast a Giant Shadow (1966/PG) ★★★ **2.15pm** FILM Apache (1954/U) ★★★★ **4.00** Outback Truckers **5.00** Traffic Cops **6.00** Police Interceptors **9.00** Trucking Heavy **10.00** Outback Truckers **11.00** Coastguard: Search & Rescue SOS **12.00m't** World's Deadliest Weather: Caught on Camera **1.05-2.05am** Fights, Camera, Action!

SKY ARTS — Freeview 36

6.00am Arts Uncovered **6.15** Gods of the Game **8.00** The Joy of Painting **9.00** Tales of the Unexpected **10.00** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **11.00** Discovering: Bruce Willis **12.00noon** The Joy of Painting **1.00** Tales of the Unexpected **2.00** The South Bank Show **3.00** The Art Mysteries **4.00** Discovering: Michelle Pfeiffer **5.00** The Joy of Painting **6.00** Tales of the Unexpected

Live Vitality T20 Blast Cricket
Sky Sports Main Event, 7pm
The North Group match between Yorkshire Vikings and Lancashire Lightning at Headingley. Can Shan Masood (left) lead the hosts to a victory over their Roses rivals?

7.00 Painting Birds with Jim and Nancy Moir: Kids Special **8.00** Bill Bailey's Musical Master Crafters: Juniors **9.00** Discovering: Mel Gibson **10.00** Spike Milligan: The Unseen Archive **11.35** Decoding Turner **1.30am** FILM The Lost Leonardo (2021/15) ★★★ **3.10** A Play in a Day **4.10** Cheltenham Literature Festival **5.10-6.00am** Auction

GOLD

7.10am The Fosters **8.05** The Green Green Grass **9.20** My Hero **10.00** Are You Being Served? **10.40** Still Open All Hours **11.20** Last of the Summer Wine **12.40pm** The Green Green Grass **1.20** My Hero **2.00** Still Open All Hours **2.40** Dad's Army **3.20** Are You Being Served? **4.00** Last of the Summer Wine **5.20** Still Open All Hours **6.00** The Green Green Grass **6.40** Dad's Army **8.00** Only Fools and Horses **8.40** The Thin Blue Line **9.20** dinnerladies **10.00** The Royle Family **10.40** Bottom **11.20** The Office **12.00m't** Only Fools and Horses **12.40** The Thin Blue Line **1.20** dinnerladies **2.00** The Royle Family **2.30-3.15am** Bottom

YESTERDAY — Freeview 27

6.10am Classic Car Garage **8.00** Abandoned Engineering **10.00** The World at War **11.00** World War Weird **12.00noon** Great British Railway Journeys **1.00** Antiques Roadshow **2.00** Bangers & Cash **4.00** The World at War **5.00** World War Weird **6.00** Antiques Roadshow **7.00** Bangers & Cash. Derek goes to pick up a 1904 Swift. **8.00** Bangers & Cash: Restoring Classics **9.00** Bangers & Cash **11.00** Abandoned Engineering **12.00m't** Great British Railway Journeys **1.00** Hornby: A Model World **2.00-3.00am** Secrets of the Transport Museum

ALIBI

7.10am Murdoch Mysteries: double bill **9.00** The Coroner **10.00** Elementary **11.00** Shakespeare & Hathaway: Private Investigators **12.00noon** Father Brown **1.00** Death in Paradise **2.00** Murdoch Mysteries **4.00** Elementary **5.00** Father Brown **6.00** Shakespeare & Hathaway: Private Investigators **7.00** Elementary **8.00** Father Brown **9.00** Murdoch Mysteries **10.00** Death in Paradise **11.20** Elementary **12.20am** CSI: Vegas **1.20** Unforgettable **2.25-4.00am** Murdoch Mysteries

SKY MAX

6.00am NCIS: Los Angeles **7.00** DC's Legends of Tomorrow **8.00** The Flash **9.00** Stargate SG-1 **11.00** NCIS: Los Angeles **12.00noon** The Flash **1.00** MacGyver **3.00** Hawaii Five-0 **4.00** S.W.A.T **5.00** DC's Legends of Tomorrow **6.00** Stargate SG-1 **8.00** A Discovery of Witches **9.00** The Walking Dead: The Ones Who Live **10.00** A League of Their Own: Mexican Road Trip **11.00** The Walking Dead **12.00m't** S.W.A.T **1.00** Entourage **2.00** There's Something About Movies **3.00** Hawaii Five-0 **4.00** S.W.A.T **5.00-6.00am** Highway Patrol

SKY ATLANTIC

6.00am Richard E Grant's Hotel Secrets **7.55** Six Feet Under **10.05** Gomorrah: double bill **12.10pm** Game of Thrones **1.15** The Sopranos **3.20** Six Feet Under **5.30** Gomorrah **7.30** Game of Thrones **9.00** House of the Dragon. Return of the fantasy drama. **10.10** Band of Brothers **11.25** Succession **12.40am** Watchmen **1.50** Game of Thrones **3.25** In Treatment **4.00-6.00am** Richard E Grant's Hotel Secrets

SKY WITNESS

6.00am Sun, Sea and A&E **7.00** Border Patrol **8.00** UK Border Force **9.00** Highway Patrol **9.30** Caught Red Handed **11.00** Blue Bloods **12.00noon** New Amsterdam **1.00** 9-1-1 **2.00** FBI: Most Wanted **3.00** Caught Red Handed **4.30** Nothing to Declare **8.00** Blue Bloods **10.00** The Good Doctor **11.00** The Rookie **1.00am** Chicago Med **2.00** Chicago Fire **3.00** Chicago PD **4.00-5.00am** Paramedics Australia

SKY COMEDY

8.00am Will & Grace **9.00** The Conners **10.00** Sort Of **10.30** Veep **11.40** Entourage **12.50pm** High Maintenance **2.10** Veep **3.20** Ballers **4.30** Sort Of **5.00** Will & Grace **6.00** The Office (US) **7.00** The Conners **8.00** Will & Grace **9.00** Young Rock **10.00** Jerrod Carmichael Reality Show **11.10** The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon **12.10am** Sex and the City **1.20** And Just Like That **2.50** Random Acts of Flyness **3.30** High Maintenance **4.35-5.00am** Sort Of

DISCOVERY

6.00am How It's Made **7.00** Deadliest Catch **8.00** Blowing Up History **9.00** Combat Dealers **10.00** Texas Metal **11.00** Wheeler Dealers **1.00pm** Barnwood Builders **3.00** Gold Rush **4.00** Alaska: Homestead Rescue **6.00** Texas Metal **7.00** Bitchin' Rides **8.00** Garage Squad **9.00** Expedition From Hell: The Lost Tapes **10.00** Naked and Afraid XL **12.00m't** Mystery at Blind Frog Ranch **1.00** Expedition From Hell: The Lost Tapes **2.00-4.00am** Naked and Afraid XL

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

8.00am Food Factory **9.00** Air Crash Investigation **10.00** Atlantis: Draining the Lost City **11.00** Airport Security: Colombia **12.00noon** Car S.O.S **1.00** Air Crash Investigation **3.00** Hitler's Last Stand **4.00** Seconds from Disaster **5.00** Car S.O.S **6.00** Air Crash Investigation **8.00** Draining the Bermuda Triangle **9.00** Mystery of MH370: Drain the Oceans **10.00** Alaska: The Next Generation **11.00** Air Crash Investigation **12.00m't** Situation Critical **1.00** Drain the Oceans: Deep Dive **2.00** Abandoned **2.30** Food Factory **3.20** Made in a Day **4.10-4.35am** Exotic Animal ER: Double Dose

Radio

BBC RADIO 1

97.6-99.8MHz 6.57am Newsbeat **7.00** Breakfast with Sam and Danni **10.30** Newsbeat **10.32** Rickie, Melvin and Charlie **12.45pm** Newsbeat **1.00** Dean and Nat **3.00** Pop Anthems **3.30** Newsbeat **3.32** Going Home with Vick, Katie and Jamie **5.45** Newsbeat **6.00** New Music Show with Jack Saunders **8.00** Rave-Up with Arielle Free **10.00** BBC Introducing Dance **11.00** Radio 1's Residency **1.00am** Radio 1 Dance Presents **2.00** Turn It Up: A Short History of Drum & Bass **3.00** Radio 1's Chillout Anthems **4.00** Radio 1 Dance **5.00-6.33am** Radio 1 Early Breakfast with Maia Beth

BBC RADIO 2

88-91MHz 6.30am The Zoe Ball Breakfast Show **9.30** Vernon Kay **12.00noon** Jeremy Vine **2.00** Scott Mills **4.00** Sara Cox **6.30** Sara Cox's Half Wower **7.00** Jo Whiley's Shiny Happy Playlist **7.30** Jo Whiley **9.00** The Country Show with Bob Harris **10.00** DJ Spoony's Magnificent 7 **10.30** DJ Spoony's Rhythm Nation **12.00m't** OJ Borg **3.00** Sounds of the 90s with Fearne Cotton **4.00-6.30am** Wynne Evans

BBC RADIO 3

90.2-92.4MHz 6.30am Breakfast **9.30** Essential Classics **1.00pm** Classical Live **4.00** Composer of the Week: Dvorak **5.00** In Tune **7.00** Classical Mixtape **7.30** Radio 3 in Concert **9.45** The Essay: The Sounds of Tyne **10.00** Night Tracks **11.30** 'Round Midnight **12.30-6.30am** Through the Night

CHOICE

Rhysearch
Radio 4, 6.30pm
Comedian Rhys James is back for more light-hearted investigations, this latest five-part run beginning with the question 'Why Can't I Concentrate?' Gloria Mark guests as Rhys gets to the bottom of the reasons behind our declining attention span and asks whether there's anyway to reverse this trend.

BBC RADIO 4

FM 92.4-94.6MHz 6.00am Today **9.00** In Our Time **9.45** NatureBang **10.00** Woman's Hour **11.00** This Cultural Life **11.45** Book of the Week: The Stalin Affair **12.00noon** News **12.04** The Bottom Line **12.32** Sliced Bread **12.57** Weather **1.00** The World at One **1.45** Understand: The UK Election **2.00** The Archers **2.15** Drama: Middle Men **3.00** Ramblings **3.27** Radio 4 Appeal **3.30** Feedback **4.00** The Briefing Room **4.30** BBC Inside Science **5.00** PM **5.57** Weather **6.00** News **6.30** Rhysearch **7.00** The Archers **7.15** Front Row **8.00** The Media Show **9.00** Loose Ends **9.45** Empire of Tea **10.00** The World Tonight **10.45** Book at Bedtime: Jensen: The Bellevue Poltergeist **11.00** The Today Podcast **11.30** Bonnie Bollywood: 25 Years of Indian Film-making in Scotland **12.00m't** News **12.30** Book of the Week: The Stalin Affair **12.48** Shipping Forecast **1.00** As BBC World Service **5.20** Shipping **5.30** News **5.43** Prayer for the Day **5.45-6.00am** Farming Today

BBC RADIO 5 LIVE

693/909kHz 6.00am 5 Live Breakfast **9.00** Nicky Campbell **11.00** Adrian Chiles **1.00pm** 5 Live Sport **2.00** 5 Live Sport **4.00** 5 Live Sport **5.00** 5 Live Sport **7.00** 5 Live Sport **7.30** 5 Live Sport **8.00** 5 Live Sport **10.30** 6-0-6 **11.30** Johnny I'Anson **12.00m't** Gordon Smart: Live from Euro 2024 **1.00** Dotun Adebayo **5.00-6.00am** Wake Up to Money

BBC RADIO WALES

FM: 94.6MHz 6.00am Radio Wales News **6.05** Wake Up with Radio Wales **6.30** Country Focus **7.00** Breakfast **9.00** Wynne Evans **12.00noon** The Phone In **2.00** Behnaz Akhgar **5.00** Radio Wales Drive **6.30** Beena and Amrit **7.00** Aleighcia Scott **10.00** Nathan Sussex **12.00m't** Relax with Radio Wales **1.00-6.00am** As Radio 5 Live

CLASSIC FM

100-102MHz 6.30am Classic FM Breakfast with Dan Walker **9.00** The Classic FM Hall of Fame Hour with Dan Walker **10.00** Alexander Armstrong **1.00pm** Anne-Marie Minhall **4.00** Sam Pittis **7.00** Relaxing Evenings **10.00** Calm Classics **1.00am** Bill Overton **4.00-6.30am** Early Breakfast

ABSOLUTE RADIO

DAB 6.00am Dave Berry **10.00** Leona Graham **1.00pm** Ben Burrell **4.00** Bush and Richie **7.00** Danielle Perry **10.00** Emil Franchi **1.00-6.00am** Dan Noble

Movies

FILM4

11.00am Rio Grande (1950/U) Western, with John Wayne and Maureen O'Hara. ★★★★
1.15pm The Bridge on the River Kwai (1957/PG) Oscar-winning Second World War drama, starring Alec Guinness. ★★★★★
4.30 Yangtse Incident (1957/U) Fact-based naval adventure, with Richard Todd. ★★★
6.45 Star Trek: Nemesis (2002/12) Sci-fi adventure, starring Patrick Stewart. ★★
9.00 Venom (2018/15) Fantasy adventure, starring Tom Hardy and Riz Ahmed. ★★★★
11.10 Angel Has Fallen (2019/15) Action thriller sequel, with Gerard Butler. ★★★★
1.30-3.25am Force 10 from Navarone (1978/15) Second World War adventure sequel, starring Harrison Ford. ★★★★

SKY CINEMA PREMIERE

6.20am Boonie Bears: Guardian Code (2023/PG) Animation, with the voices of Joseph S Lambert and Paul 'Maxx' Rinehart. ★★★
8.00 Bonus Track (2023/15) See 2.00pm for details. ★★★
9.45 Meg 2: The Trench (2023/12) See 8.00pm for details. ★★★
11.45 Ride On (2023/PG) Action drama, with Jackie Chan and Liu Haocun. ★★★★
2.00pm Bonus Track (2023/15) Comedy, with Joe Anders and Samuel Small. ★★★
3.50 Blue Beetle (2023/12) Fantasy, with Xolo Mariduena and Bruna Marquezine. ★★★
6.00 American Star (2024/15) Thriller, starring Ian McShane and Nora Arnezeder. ★★★
8.00 Meg 2: The Trench (2023/12) Thriller sequel, starring Jason Statham. ★★★
10.00 The Great Escaper (2023/12) Drama, starring Michael Caine. ★★★★
11.40 Ruthless (2023/15) Action thriller, with Dermot Mulroney and Jeff Fahey. ★★★★
1.20am American Star (2024/15) See 6.00pm for details. ★★★
3.10 The Royal Hotel (2023/18) Thriller, with Julia Garner and Jessica Henwick. ★★★
4.45-6.30am Ruthless (2023/15) See 11.40pm for details. ★★★★

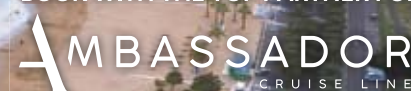
SKY CINEMA DRAMA

4.20pm It Is In Us All (2022/15) Drama, with Cosmo Jarvis and Rhys Mannion. ★★★
6.00 Summit Fever (2022/15) Drama, with Ryan Phillippe and Hannah New. ★★★
8.00 Jackie (2016/15) Drama, with Natalie Portman and Greta Gerwig. ★★★★
9.45 Cold Mountain (2003/15) Drama, with Nicole Kidman and Jude Law. ★★★
12.25am Six Minutes to Midnight (2020/12) Thriller, starring Judi Dench, James D'Arcy, Jim Broadbent and Eddie Izzard. ★★★
2.10 It Is In Us All (2022/15) See 4.20pm for details. ★★★
3.50 Boyz N the Hood (1991/15) Drama, with Cuba Gooding Jr, Laurence Fishburne, Morris Chestnut and Ice Cube. ★★★★★
5.45-7.50am Game Change (2012/12) Drama, starring Julianne Moore. ★★★

SKY CINEMA FAMILY

4.00pm Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile (2022/PG) Musical, starring Javier Bardem. ★★★★
5.50 Johnny English Reborn (2011/PG) Spy comedy sequel, starring Rowan Atkinson and Gillian Anderson. ★★★
7.40 The Flash (2023/12) Adventure, with Ezra Miller and Sasha Calle. ★★★★
10.15 Problem Child (1990/PG) Comedy, starring John Ritter and Michael Oliver. ★★★
11.50 The Last Airbender (2010/PG) Fantasy adventure, starring Noah Ringer. ★★★
1.45am Step Dogs (2013/U) Family comedy, with Joris Jarsky and Ryan Belleville. ★★
3.15 The Horse Dancer (2017/PG) Family drama, starring Sophie Bolen. ★★★
5.20-6.50am The Little Rascals (1994/U) Comedy, starring Travis Tedford. ★★★★

TALKING PICTURES TV

5.35pm Death Goes to School (1953/U) Crime drama, with Gordon Jackson. ★★
6.50-8.00pm Small Hotel (1957/U) Comedy, with Gordon Harker and Marie Lohr. ★★★
10.10pm The Innocent (1993/15) Cold War thriller, starring Campbell Scott. ★★★
12.30am Malice (1993/15) Thriller, starring Alec Baldwin and Nicole Kidman. ★★★
2.40 The Facts of Life (1960/PG) Romantic comedy, starring Lucille Ball. ★★★
4.45-6.00am Night of the Prowler (1962/U) Thriller, starring Patrick Holt. ★★

GREAT! MOVIES

5.00pm Lost Letter Mysteries for Christmas (2014/PG) Festive comedy, starring Eric Mabius and Kristin Booth. ★★
7.00 Cromwell (1970/PG) Drama, starring Richard Harris and Alec Guinness. ★★★★
10.00 Bronson (2008/18) Biopic of convict Charles Bronson, with Tom Hardy. ★★★★
11.55pm Killerman (2019/15) Action, starring Liam Hemsworth and Emory Cohen. ★★★
2.15am Aurora Teagarden Mysteries: Haunted By Murder (2022/PG) Mystery, starring Candace Cameron Bure. ★★★
4.00-6.00am Deadly Hack (2018/PG) Thriller, with Rosalie McIntire and Drew Seeley. ★★★

Letters

The Daily Express, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5AP
Email: expressletters@express.co.uk (include your full name, address and telephone number)

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Letter of the day

Picture: PA

OPEN GOAL: Chancellor Jeremy Hunt must help taxpayers

Tax allowance rise to £14k an easy win

IF THE Conservatives want to succeed on July 4 then Chancellor Jeremy Hunt needs to announce now a firm date for increasing personal tax allowances to £14,000 ("PM: Labour will tax your years of savings in weeks", June 19).

For some this is not sufficient, but we must remember the debt the country is in. This increase would help every taxpayer in the country and it is an incentive for pensioners and others to vote Conservative.

Just promising that they will reduce taxes after the election is not good enough. The triple lock did not help pensioners much and many workers are still struggling with the cost-of-living crisis.

Peter Simcock,
Little Canfield, Essex

Britain sleepwalking into repeat of 1997 disaster

VOTERS made a big mistake in 1997 and are about to make it again. We're back with the loony Left, the party of envy.

We can all see that civil servants, our schools, the BBC and House of Lords are all dominated by the Left, hence the struggle to implement government policies. Why are voters so fickle? We have never had a good Labour Government in my lifetime and Sir Keir Starmer's sure as hell isn't going to be one.

Tim Sayer,
Bristol

Savers didn't blow cash on booze, fags and tattoos

YES, Sir Keir Starmer. Some of us do have savings. Some of us haven't spent our hard-earned money on alcohol, cigarettes and tattoos.

Susan Woodward,
Dukinfield, Cheshire

Conservatives pay price for stabbing Boris in back

RISHI Sunak is running scared, as are the rest of the sorry Tory mob of no-hopers, and they only have themselves to blame ("'Voting Reform risks handing Labour a blank cheque to raise taxes, do nothing about illegal migration and even rejoin EU'", June 18).

Had they not stabbed Boris Johnson in the back they wouldn't be in such dire straits now.

Nigel Farage's "contract" speaks to me and no doubt millions of other ordinary folk, and if Sunak and Co can't understand its appeal they deserve to be crushed.

Kathryn Hill,
Queniborough, Leics

Reform is the future and will replace failed elite

THE fact that many newspapers and most political parties are criticising Reform UK and its "contract" makes me more determined to vote for them. It might take a few years for Reform to be the Opposition and then the Government but Labour and the Conservatives have failed abysmally. Time to move on.

Simon Mabbutt,
London

Farage has all big guns rattled and on the run

IF NIGEL Farage and Reform UK are not credible, why are the major parties spending so much time and effort slagging them off?

If he and Reform are so rubbish, surely they credit us mere voters with sense to see the obvious, or do they think we are gullible? He freely states Reform won't win. I thought the electorate were capable of making their own minds up.

John Gilson,
Gosport, Hants

Harri nails soapbox Nigel and his empty promises

THANK goodness the Daily Express published the superb article on Nigel Farage by Guto Harri, Boris Johnson's former director of communications ("Don't be fooled by megaphone-loving Nigel's empty vows", June 18). I was beginning to think nobody else, apart from the Tories, would dare to publicly criticise Farage's empty vows.

The absurd attention-seeking behaviour by Farage beggars belief and will inevitably lead to splitting the Right vote and open the door wide open for a future Labour Government.

Michael Garrett,
Rotherham, S Yorks

Call Johnson to dig Tories out of a monumental hole

AMID financial experts casting doubt on the economic policy of both the Labour Party and Reform UK ("Banking giant's dire warning on Labour pledges", June 18), with two weeks to go to the election it may be time to recall old stalwart Boris Johnson to inject some energy into the Tory election campaign.

It may well be time for Cincinnatus to return to the plough after all.

Diane Silva,
Bournemouth, Dorset

Why are politicians silent on China's role in Covid?

AT THIS time of budget debts everyone is ignoring the huge elephant in the room. Covid from China has cost us hundreds of billions of pounds but no politician seems to give a fig about it. How does that make any sense?

Dan Hartley,
Solihull, W Mids

Very Posh and Becks if 'Sir' David gets knighted

GORDON Brown gets a gong and then there's the rest of them, some we've never heard of before.

Who's next, David Beckham? He appears to be everywhere at the moment. His wife will be hoping he gets his gong then she'll be able to get everyone to call her Lady Beckham. God help one and all.

Peter King,
Chester

When seagulls follow the trawler... and your chips!

OH, SHOCK horror! Gulls nicking picnics, chips and ice cream ("Flock horror! Gulls mug tourists", June 18). Yes, it's what they do and they are very good at it.

I live along the coast and live with gulls. There are notices everywhere telling you to protect your food.

Gulls are on the endangered list worldwide as humans pollute and decimate fish stocks and use the water around our coastline where they should be nesting peacefully.

They are not trying to scare you, get a grip. They are doing exactly back at you what you do to them.

Maggie Nunn,
Bridport, Dorset

Keep birds' beaks out by eating all meals indoors

HOW many times do we hear about seagulls stealing titbits from the people who choose to eat alfresco?

This habit began when humans thought it amusing to offer them food. Now it appears they're committing high treason.

It's hardly rocket science – don't entice them by eating outdoors in the areas they frequent.

The choice is quite simple: eat indoors or put up with it.

Lesley Bowler,
Thurlstone, S Yorks

Kop idol Hansen will never walk alone in his recovery

SUCH great news to read Liverpool FC legend Alan Hansen is on the mend and doing well.

It must have been such a tonic for his friend and former teammate Graeme Souness to hear him in great spirits ("Pal Souness says Hansen is sounding 'fabulous'", June 18). I wish Alan all the best in his recovery.

Annette Hale,
Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset

DID YOU HIT THE GYM REGULARLY AFTER YOUR RETIREMENT?

Yes

I SPENT my working life sitting at a desk. After I retired I had a lot of time on my hands so I joined a gym near our house ("Exercise is a leg up for older folk", June 19).

I started going to water aerobics classes, which are amazing, then got talking to a fellow recent retiree who told me she'd been lifting weights three times a week and felt as fit as a fiddle. I was reluctant at first, but the staff were friendly and helpful and drew up a programme.

Honestly, I've never felt fitter. And it's all down to heavy lifting.

Sonia Atherton,
Leeds

No

LIFTING weights and gyms have never done it for me. It's not like I sit on my sofa all day watching TV, we adopted two dogs a few weeks after I retired and we go out walking for hours in all weathers.

I love walking. It keeps me trim and it's just great being out in the fresh air for most of the day. And our dogs love it too.

I've never seen the point of running on the spot on a treadmill or cycling and going nowhere on an exercise bike. We're meant to be outside, so that's what I do every day.

Anne Ellis,
Exeter

TODAY: Thursday June 20, 2024

ON THIS DAY

DAILY EXPRESS

On the steps of No. 10, a pledge

PREMIER HEATH

54 years ago (1970)

Our front page announced Ted Heath's unexpected general election victory after a last-minute swing to the Conservatives. One-nation Heath had been written off by pollsters but ended up with a majority of 30.

Harold Wilson stayed on as Labour leader despite his party's defeat. The 1970 UK general election was the first in which people could vote from the age of 18 rather than 21, and ballot papers could show which party a candidate was standing for.

61 years ago (1963)

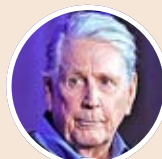
In the wake of the Cuban Missile Crisis, the US and USSR signed an agreement to create the so-called "red telephone" link between Washington and Moscow.

In reality the hotline was never a phone link, but first a teleprinter, then a fax and from 2008 a secure email.

30 years ago (1994)

American football legend OJ Simpson pleaded not guilty to the murder of his ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ronald Goldman who were stabbed to death outside Nicole's apartment in Brentwood, Los Angeles.

The trial would last eight months and end with Simpson's controversial acquittal on October 3, 1995.

BIRTHDAYS

Beach Boys legend **Brian Wilson** is 82. He created the California surf sound.

Hello singer **Lionel Richie** is 75. He originally wanted to be a priest.

Ex-footballer **Frank Lampard** is 46. His uncle is Harry Redknapp.

Hollywood star **Nicole Kidman** is 57. She was born in Hawaii and grew up in Australia.

TODAY'S GIGGLE

I gave my dead batteries away yesterday. They were free of charge!

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Address ....

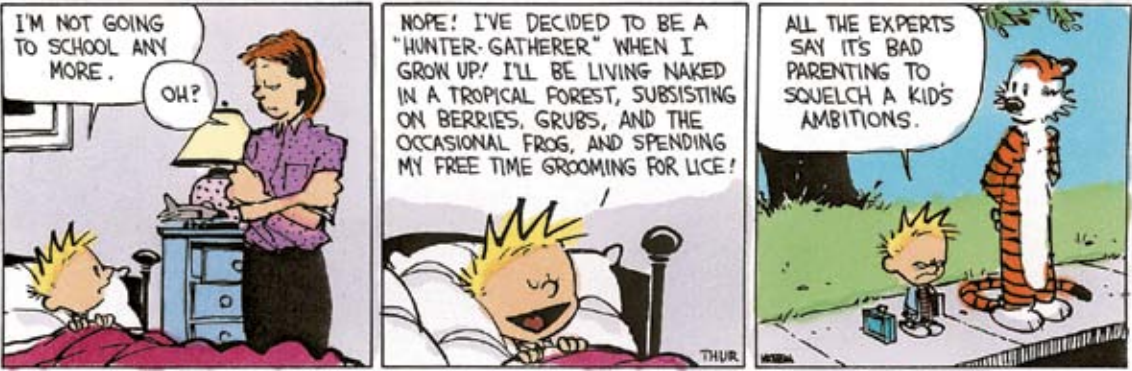
.... Post Code..........

Email (For special offers & order update)

....

Telephone..........

COOPERS OF STORTFORD

CALVIN AND HOBBES Bill Watterson

PEANUTS Charles M. Schulz

FAITH, HOPE AND SUE Lisa Wild

RUPERT AND THE ROLLING BALL No 4

Then, last, he measures Rupert's height, And nods, as if to say, "Just right!"

At Rupert's words, the stranger seems to wake up. "Of course, of course," he replies, "but don't go away. Stand still a minute." Then he does something very odd. After looking carefully at the little bear he pulls a tape measure from his pocket and measures his height. Then he nods and without another word he walks away. "Well, what did all that mean?" gasps Rupert. "Who can he be?"

© Express Newspapers 2024

"I thought that he would never leave!" Gasps Willie, clutching Rupert's sleeve.

Vegetarian lasagne

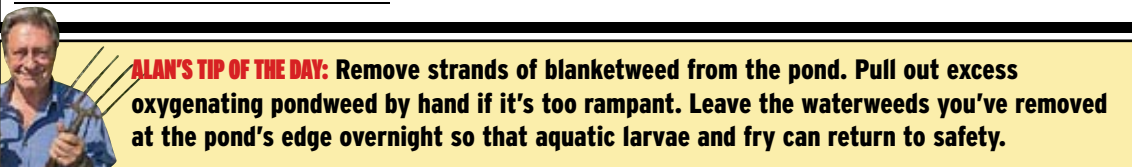
This meat-free version of the Italian classic uses ready-to-cook pasta sheets and ready-made pasta sauce, making it a great store-cupboard dish. Serves six.

INGREDIENTS

- 170g uncooked lasagne sheets
- **335g tofu or Quorn-style chicken pieces, broken up**
- 2 eggs
- **1/4 tsp salt**
- 1/4 tsp black pepper
- **1/4 tsp ground nutmeg**
- 2 tbsps milk
- **235ml red, tomato-based vegetarian pasta sauce**
- 1 tbsp dried parsley
- **225g mozzarella cheese, grated**
- 40g vegetarian Parmesan cheese, grated

METHOD

1) Preheat oven to 180 C.
2) Cook lasagne sheets in boiling water for 8 to 10 minutes or until al dente, then drain.
3) In a medium bowl combine tofu, eggs, salt, pepper, nutmeg, milk, pasta sauce, parsley and 100g of the mozzarella cheese.
4) Spread a layer in the bottom of a 9x18cm rectangular casserole dish.
5) Layer lasagne sheets with the sauce mixture, ending with sauce.
6) Sprinkle with remaining mozzarella and vegetarian Parmesan cheese.
7) Bake in preheated oven for 25 to 35 minutes. Serve piping hot.

ALAN'S TIP OF THE DAY: Remove strands of blanketweed from the pond. Pull out excess oxygenating pondweed by hand if it's too rampant. Leave the waterweeds you've removed at the pond's edge overnight so that aquatic larvae and fry can return to safety.

Russell Grant
Britain's celebrity astrologer

Aries Mar 21 - Apr 20
It will be frustrating to be passed over for a promotion due to an unfair system you can do nothing about. The song-and-dance procedure of how a leader is voted in is more for show when the outcome is not going to change.
0905 789 3701**

Taurus Apr 21 - May 21
Technical problems will cause irritation. Systems are not standing up to demands being made of them and this is frustrating for both businesses and customers. When things go wrong, the issues will not be easily resolved.
0905 789 3702**

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Are you spreading your energy too thinly? Your greatest challenge will be to decide on your priorities and take a more organised approach to your goals. Overcoming a need to be involved in all that's going on will be hard but worthwhile.
0905 789 3703**

Libra Sep 24 - Oct 23
You're tempted to give up when the going gets tough but this will get you nowhere. Continuing with a course of study is important. If you are going to gain the qualifications you need to make progress in your career, stick it out.
0905 789 3707**

Scorpio Oct 24 - Nov 22
Speaking out on a social media site could lead to an argument. Someone who disagrees with you will act as though they are offended and cause unnecessary drama. You are not personally attacking anyone. Pause before you speak.
0905 789 3708**

Sagittarius Nov 23 - Dec 21
Despite the busy scene around you, you will be handling most things that crop up with ease. You will actually enjoy an extra challenge. A party or travel invitation will be your ticket to meeting up with people you haven't seen for a while.
0905 789 3709**

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Turn a deaf ear to anyone who tries to undermine your confidence. Friends and colleagues who do respect your skills will give you the support you need. Looking for love? You could find it with someone from your past.
0905 789 3704**

Leo July 24 - Aug 23
It is possible to turn a dream into reality but you need to work at it. If you put time, energy and focus into this project, you will get results. A senior colleague needs to see you are serious in your desire to take on a more responsible role.
0905 789 3705**

Virgo Aug 24 - Sep 23
You want to spend some time reflecting, planning and searching for answers. It might seem impossible to get hold of someone you need to talk to in order to gain more information. A workplace argument is causing anxiety.
0905 789 3706**

Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 20
Helping someone you care for through a difficult time will bring some personal revelations. It will be as if your friend or partner is holding a mirror up to your own personal situation. You are starting to understand yourself better.
0905 789 3710**

Aquarius Jan 21 - Feb 19
Nothing gives you more pleasure than supporting a good cause. You often put other people's needs in front of your own. Even so, when a shady organisation approaches you for money, you will research them before responding.
0905 789 3711**

Pisces Feb 20 - Mar 20
Brain fog is making it hard for you to get on with what you have to do. No matter how hard you try, you can't seem to get past a creative block. You may need a change of scenery, something new to do or some company to stimulate your mind.
0905 789 3712**

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Department for Transport

THE A1 MORPETH TO ELLINGHAM DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER 2024

THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2017

NOTICE OF A DECISION ON AN APPLICATION FOR AN ORDER GRANTING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT FOR EIA DEVELOPMENT

The Secretary of State for Transport ("the Secretary of State") gives notice under regulation 31(2) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 that a determination has been made on an application made by National Highways ("the Applicant") for development consent under the Planning Act 2008 ("the 2008 Act") for Environmental Impact Assessment development.

The Order grants development consent to the improvements to the widening of an approximately 20.6km stretch of the existing A1 between Morpeth to Ellingham, with approximately 14.5km of online widening and approximately 6.1km of new highway, the construction of bridges, junctions and other works. The Secretary of State has determined, following consideration of the report of the Examining Authority which conducted an examination into the Application, that development consent should be granted and has decided, therefore, to make an Order under section 114, 115 and 120 of the 2008 Act.

The statement of reasons for deciding to make an Order granting development consent, which has been prepared by the Secretary of State under section 116 of the 2008 Act and regulation 31(2) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017, containing the content of the decision, the requirements imposed in connection with the development, the main reasons and considerations on which the decision is based including relevant information about the participation of the public, a description of the main features to avoid, reduce and offset any major adverse effects of the development and information regarding the right to challenge the decision and the procedures for doing so, is published on the Planning Inspectorate's web-site at: https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/TR010059 .

It is also available at the following location: The Planning Inspectorate, National Infrastructure Directorate, Temple Quay House, Bristol BS1 6PN.

To make an appointment for inspection of the documents contact the Planning Inspectorate on 0303 444 5000 or email NIEnquiries@pins.gsi.gov.uk.

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City & Business

AT A GLANCE

STOCK MARKET

FTSE 100	8205.1	▲	+13.8
FTSE 250	20381.0	▼	-28.9
FTSE ALL SHARE	4473.4	▲	+5.4
Shares Traded	9067.1 million		

POPULAR SHARES ON THE RISE

Aviva	478¼	+4
BAE Systems	1350½	+5½
Barclays	206¾	+¾
BT Group	141¼	+¼
Centrica	134¼	+1½
GSK	1616½	+4½
Haleon	325½	+½
HSBC Holdings	693	+6½
Int Consolidated Airlines	170	+2
Lloyds Banking Group	55¼	+¼
Marks & Spencer Group	302½	+1¾
National Grid	901	+6¾
NatWest Group	312½	+2¼
Rolls-Royce Holdings	472½	+4½
Shell	2748	+14½
Vodafone Group	71¾	+1

POPULAR SHARES ON THE SLIDE

Abrdn	144¼	-3¼
AstraZeneca	12340	-76
BP	466¼	-½
Convatec Group	243	-2
Saga	115½	-¾
Sainsbury (J)	259½	-1¼
Tesco	309	-½
Unilever	4433	-5
Whitbread	2940	-15

WORLD MARKETS

TOKYO	38570.8	▲	+88.7
HONG KONG	18430.4	▲	+514.8
GERMANY	18067.9	▼	-64.1
FRANCE	7570.2	▼	-58.6

STERLING VALUE

Dollar	1.272	▲	+0.001
Yen	200.878	▲	+0.293
Euro	1.184	▶	0.000

DOLLAR VALUE

Dollar/Yen	157.911	▲	+0.0729
Dollar/Euro	0.931	▼	-0.0007

COMMODITIES

GOLD($)	▲	2330.20
KRUGERRAND(£)	▼	1831.83
SILVER(pence)	▲	2335.65
BRENT CRUDE($)	▼	85.19

OTHER INDICATORS

Base rate	5.25%
Halifax mortgage rate	5.98%
Retail Price Index	+3.0% (CPI +2.0%)
House price Index	0.7%
Unemployment	1,510,000

TOURIST'S POUND

Australia	1.86 dollar
Canada	1.69 dollar
China	8.55 renminbi
Czech Rep.	27.35 koruna
Denmark	8.38 krone
Eurozone	1.16 euro
Hong Kong	9.33 dollar
Hungary	433.95 forint
Israel	4.44 shekel
Japan	192.58 yen
Jordan	0.84 dinar
Mexico	22.05 peso
New Zealand	1.99 dollar
Norway	12.87 krone
Poland	4.84 zloty
Saudi Arabia	4.51 riyal
South Africa	21.97 rand
Sweden	12.61 krona
Switzerland	1.09 franc
Thailand	44.78 baht
Turkey	38.44 lira
United States	1.25 dollar

Euros effect helps Young's pubs to score record profits

By **Graham Hiscott**

PUB company Young's yesterday lauded an "epic" start to the Euro 2024 football championships after revealing record annual profits.

Chief executive Simon Dodd said trade for England's tournament opener against Serbia last Sunday was up 31% year-on-year.

Fans have packed into pubs to watch matches from the Euros in Germany.

Mr Dodd said: "We were expecting a lot less than that."

On tonight's clash between England and Denmark, he added: "If the weather stays nice, it will be huge."

The company already has £1million worth of bookings for tonight's game, based on the assumption that fans will buy at least two drinks.

It came as Young's announced profits in the year to April rose 9.3% to a record £49million.

The company has managed to avoid the gloom evident in other parts of the pubs sector, with cost pressures and changing customer habits leading to a wave of closures.

Mr Dodd said one reason why it had bucked the trend was investing in its pub estate. Around £48million was spent doing up 35 existing pubs last year. The company has also continued to grow, including spending £158million buying the City Pub Group in March, in what Mr Dodd called a "real milestone".

PUB MILESTONE: CEO Simon Dodd

Adding City's 55 pubs took Young's estate to a whopping 288 sites.

The firm's growth came despite the cost-of-living squeeze and a steep rise in drink prices.

The average price of a pint in Young's London pubs is now £6.99, and £6.38 outside of the capital.

Group revenues rose 5.4% to £388.8million last year.

Drink sales increased 3.9% on a like-for-like basis, with food sales up by 1.5%.

The company also has more than 1,000 bedrooms at its various pubs, with revenues from rooms up 10.2% to £23.7million last year.

Mr Dodd also said the firm had introduced an internal scheme that allowed more staff to choose flexible hours.

Doing so had saved £1million in recruitment agency fees alone, the chief executive explained.

AMAZON MAY RECOGNISE FIRST UNION

Picture: JACOB KING/PA

DEMO: Amazon workers with union backing outside Coventry depot

WORKERS at an Amazon depot are taking a step closer to gaining union recognition.

The GMB has begun a month-long ballot of more than 3,000 staff at the online giant's Coventry centre. The legally binding ballot, overseen by the Government's Central Arbitration Committee, could force Amazon to recognise a trade union.

A vote in favour would mean Amazon having to negotiate with GMB on terms, pay and conditions for staff at the site.

It would be the first time Amazon has recognised a union in UK history. The result will be announced after July 15.

Amanda Gearing, of the GMB, said: "This is historic. Amazon is one of the world's most anti-union employers."

'Challenging' times for Speedy

TOOL hire firm Speedy saw profits more than halve last year.

The company made £14.7million in the year to March, from £30.7million over the previous 12 months, as revenues fell £421.5million.

Bosses blamed the sharp decline in profits partly on increased interest costs on its borrowings. Speedy's debts topped £100million after it bought Green Power Hire.

Dan Evans, its chief executive, said: "Speedy [made] positive strategic progress over the year, despite the challenging macro-economic environment."

Berkeley targets rental sector

HIGH-END housebuilder Berkeley has announced plans to start renting out properties amid sluggish sales.

The group aims to develop 4,000 homes over the next 10 years to capitalise on high rental demand in London. Average private rents increased by 8.7% in the 12 months to May. Berkeley upped its outlook for the year ahead despite "challenging" market conditions.

The firm expects a pre-tax profit of £525million, lifting its previous target by 5%.

It posted a £557.3million profit for the year to April, down 7.7%.

++ THE FTSE 100 THE FTSE 100 THE FTSE 100 ++

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
3i Group	3100	+21	3105	1848
A.B. Foods	2476#	-19	2738	1929½
Admiral Group	2577	-12	2837	2029
Airtel Africa	118¾	-1	131½	90¾
Anglo American	2428½	+39½	2773½	1670¼
Antofagasta	2057	+10	2410	1293
Ashtead Group	5420	+20	6104	4667
AstraZeneca	12340	-76	12600	9501
Auto Trader	813½	-1¼	829½	587
Aviva	478¼	+4	497	369¼
B&M Europ Value Ret	471	-2½	612½	463
BAE Systems	1350½	+5½	1400	888¼
Barclays	206¾	+¾	220	129¼
Barratt Development	468¾	-13¼	566½	392¼
Beazley Group	696½	+15½	696½	503
Berkeley Grp Hldgs	4694	-316	5320	3773
BP	466¼#	-½	558	444¼
British Amer.Tob	2440	+15	2735	2267
BT Group	141¼	+¼	142¼	102¼
Bunzl	3006#	+8	3306	2687
Burberry Group	964¼	-15½	2257	964¼
Centrica	134¼#	+1½	172½	118½
Coca-Cola HBC	2686#	-2	2804	2065
Compass Group	2226#	+9	2323	1945½
Convatec Group	243	-2	293½	196¼
CRH	6064#	-50	6898	4109
Croda International	4114	-27	5956	4059
DCC	5645#	-5	6035	4171
Diageo	2569	+11	3457	2515½
Diploma	4134	-20	4252	2804
DS Smith	352	+1½	413	263¾
EasyJet	455	+3	577¾	360
Entain	661	-4½	1403½	654½
Experian Group	3713	-7	3779	2390
F&C Inv Tst	1014		1050	831
Flutter Entert.	14470	+75	17475	12155
Frasers Group	862½		938	683
Fresnillo	541	-1½	645¼	441½
GlaxoSmithKline	1616½#	+4½	1812½	1316
Glencore	456¼	+2¾	501½	369
Haleon	325½	+½	341	308½
Halma	2616	-40	2664	1810½
Hikma	1977	-22	2205	1722
HSBC Holdings	693#	+6½	720¾	575¾
IMI	1789	-11	1901	1445
Imperial Brands	2015#	+8	2020½	1580
Informa	856½#	-4½	861¼	685¾
InterContinental Htl	8252	-12	8752	5210
Intermediate Cap.Grp	2220#	-38	2394	1255½
Intertek Group	4742#	-50	5075	3755
Intl Consolidated Airlines	170	+2	186½	138
JD Sports	119¾#	+2	175¼	104
Kingfisher	248#	-1	270½	201¼
Land Securities	609½#	-11½	725¼	559½
Legal & General	227½	+¾	256¼	205¾
Lloyds Banking Grp	55¼	+¼	56½	39¾
London Stock Ex	9536	+48	9674	7986
M&G	203½	-¼	238¾	183
Marks & Spencer	302½#	+1¾	311½	185
Melrose	575	-5	677½	446¾
Mondi	1477	+3½	1604	1179¾
National Grid	901#	+6¾	1050	838½
NatWest Group	312½	+2¼	326½	176¼
Next	9004	-36	9426	6582
Ocado	352½	-1	976½	342
Pearson	965	+3½	1042	811
Pershing Square Hold	4304	-2	4334	2704
Persimmon	1365	-39½	1498	960½
Phoenix Group	485¼	+¾	560¾	441½
Prudential	700½	+½	1108½	687½
Reckitt Benckiser	4397	+20	6082	4110
RELX	3587	-4	3591	2442
Rentokil Initial	450¼	-5	644	392½
Rightmove	557¼	+2½	594¾	463
Rio Tinto	5236	+28	5891	4559
Rolls-Royce Group	472½	+4½	474½	145¼
RS Group	726#	-5	839½	660½
Sage Group	1078#	+6	1282	868
Sainsbury (J)	259½#	-1¼	310½	245¾
Schroders	374½	-3	464½	347¼
Scottish Mortgage	877½#	-19½	904¼	637½
SEGRO	891¼	-27½	940	679¼
Severn Trent	2407#	+16	2728	2265
Shell	2748#	+14½	2946	2264½
Smith & Nephew	990¾	+3	1268	896¼
Smiths Group	1698	+5	1766½	1526
Smurfit Kappa	3750	+172	3882	2554
Spirax-Sarco	8405	-250	11130	8058
SSE	1805½	+5½	1896	1508
St James's Place	547	+1½	1183	402
Standard Chartered	722		785¾	573¾
Taylor Wimpey	143¾	-3¾	152½	99¾
Tesco	309#	-½	315	245½
Unilever	4433	-5	4450	3694
Unite Group	894	-12	1057	847
United Utilities	1010	-4½	1125	900¾
Vodafone Group	71¾#	+1	81	63
Weir Group	2040	+8	2200	1675½
Whitbread	2940#	-15	3678	2855
WPP Group	735¾#	-5	873¾	681¼

MARKET REPORT

HOUSE builders were among the big fallers on the FTSE 100 yesterday as investors were largely unmoved by Berkeley's slight increase in guidance for the financial year.

Berkeley Holdings was the blue chip index's biggest faller, tumbling 6.3%, or 316p, to 4,694p.

Taylor Wimpey dropped 2.48%, or 3.65p, to 143.75p. **Persimmon** dropped 39.5p, to 1,365p.

And **Barratt Developments** was down 2.7%, or 13.2p, to 468.7p.

Vodafone rose 1.4% to 71.64p after announcing a deal to sell its 18% stake in India's Indus Towers.

Elsewhere, pub firm **Young's** dropped 2.2% to 966p as investors appear to focus on its £20.7million statutory profit before tax for last year.

The biggest risers on the FTSE 100 were **Smurfit Kappa**, up 166p to 3,744p, **Anglo American**, rising 41p to 2,430p, **Beazley**, which soared 11.5p to 692.5p, and **IAG** rose 2.4p to 170.45p.

+ BG + Barclays + BT + Centrica + Dixons Carphone + First Group + HSBC + Kingfisher + Marks & Spencer + Next + Prudential + Rolls-Royce + Sainsburys + Tesco + Unilever + Vodafone + Whitbread + WPP

SHARES AT A GLANCE

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Aerospace & Defence				
Avon Rubber	1302	+2	1378	593
Babcock International	536½	-½	565½	269
BAE Systems	1350½	+5½	1400	888¼
Chemring Group	382	+2½	396	259
QinetiQ Group	457¼	+6¾	459½	292¾
Rolls-Royce Group	472½	+4½	474½	145¼
Senior	164½	+4¾	180½	154¼
Alternative Energy				
Porvair	684	+8	730	524
Banks				
Barclays	206¾	+¾	220	129¾
Bco Santander	374		414	260½
Close Brothers	437¼	-10	976½	299¾
CYBG	215¼	+½	216¼	142
HSBC Holdings	693#	+6½	720¾	575¾
Investec	579½	-1½	594	429½
Lloyds Banking Grp	55¼	+¼	56½	39¾
Metro Bank	35	-1	124½	28¾
NatWest Group	312½	+2¼	326½	176¼
Standard Chartered	722		785¾	573¾
Beverages				
Barr (AG)	599	+1	623	451½
Britvic	969½#	+5½	1018	785½
Coca-Cola HBC	2686#	-2	2804	2065
Diageo	2569	+11	3457	2515½
Chemicals				
Carclo	18½	-¼	18¾	6¾
Croda International	4114	-27	5956	4059
Elementis	145½		156½	98
Johnson Matthey	1546#	-14	1870	1446½
Synthomer	260½	-14	637½	122½
Treatt	450	-10	689	370
Victrex	1166#		1595	1126
Construction & Materials				
Balfour Beatty	356½#	-2	386¼	295½
Clarke T.	159	-¼	163¼	118½
CRH	6064#	-50	6898	4109
Dialight	191	-2½	237	144
Galliford Try	233	-1	275	192½
Gleeson (MJ)	536	-5	580	350
Keller Group	1272#	+16	1376	673
Kier Group	140		149½	74½
Marshalls	306½#	+½	329½	198
Morgan Sindall	2630		2665	1706
Severfield-Rowen	73½	+2	75	50
Smart (J) & Co	125		168½	117½
Tyman	357	+1	396½	236
Electricity				
Drax Group	514	+8½	619¾	401½
SSE	1805½	+5½	1896	1508
Electronic & Electrical Equipment				
Acal	687	-10	905	593
Halma	2616	-40	2664	1810½
Morgan Crucible	313½	-4½	331	218½
Oxford Instruments	2640	+10	2730	1712
Renishaw	3890	-235	4370	2950
Spectris	3026#	-182	3807	2750
TT Electronics	152½	+½	185	135¼
XP Power	1476	+74	2440	776
Equity Investment Instruments				
Aberdeen Asian Sml	281#	-1	287	243
Aberforth Smll.Co	1500	-12	1544	1126
Acorn Income				
Albion Tech.& Gen. VCT	67½#		73½	66½
Albion VCT	43¼		47½	43¼
Alliance Trust	1198#		1264	988
Artemis Alpha	370	-2	378	263½
Aurora Inv.Tst	246#	-1	253½	198
AVI Global Tst	236		248	185
Baillie Gifford Japan	716	-2	796	641
Baillie Gifford Shin Nip	108½	-2½	147½	105
Bankers Inv.Tst	113¼	+½	117	92¼
Baronsmead VCT.2	54½		56	50¼
BH Macro GBP	361½	+5½	386	328
Biotech Growth Trust	955	-10	1024	718
BlackRock Mining	562#	+8	631	492½
Bluehone AiM VCT2	30½		33	30½
British Assets Tst	82½	-¼	87½	71¼
Brunner Inv.Tst	1315#	+5	1355	966
Caledonia Inv	3505	+65	3660	3110
City Natural Res.Yld	181	+½	204	152
City Of London	417½	+2	428	371½
Dunedin Ent.IT	502½	-10	565	480
Dunedin Income	281	+1	294	249
Edin Wwide Inv	141¾	-½	157	122½
Edin.Drgn.Tst	407	+9	414	325
Edin.Inv.Tst	725#	+5	742	615
Edin.US Tracker	294		298	258½
Elderstreet VCT	44		49	44
European Ass Tst	88	+¼	91¾	73
F&C Cap&Inc	327½#	+½	339	271
F&C Inv Tst	1014		1050	831
F&C Smaller Cos	161½	-¼	167½	129
F&C US Smaller Companies	1265	-10	1360	1065
Fidelity Asian	516		542	476
Fidelity European	392		411	311½
Fidelity Japanese	169½	-½	185	152½
Fidelity Special	304#	+3	311½	252½
Finsbury Gwth&In	846	+1	914	792
Foresight Tech.VCT	72½#		84	70½
Gartmore Euro	187#		195½	150
Genesis E.M.F.	694	+14	720¼	569
Graphite Ent	1258	+6	1264	1046
Hansa Tst 'A'	198½	+3	217	175
Hansa Tst Plc	209		223	180½
Henderson Euro.Tst	157½#	-½	164½	124½
Henderson Far Est	240	+1½	247	197¾
Henderson High Inc	158½#	+½	172	140½
Henderson Opp Tst	226#	+6	236	171½
Herald Inv.Tst	2220	+10	2225	1596
HGCapital Tst	490		499	353½
HSBC Infrastructure	125¼#	-¾	139½	117¼
Impax Env.Mkt	394	+2	417	334½
Int.Biotech.Tst	640	-8	694	548
International Public	125¼	-1½	139¼	115½
Invesco Asia	328	+4	348	286
Invesco Perp UK	437	+6	437	379
JPM American	999	+6	1000½	741
JPM Asian	373	+2	378	313
JPM Claverhouse	728	+10	746	630
JPM Emerg Mkt	106¾	+½	108¼	96½
JPM Euro Sml Co	458		485	354½
JPM Global Emerging	137	+2½	140	117
JPM Indian	981	-2	991	798
JPM Japanese	520		553	438½
JPM Overseas IT	576#	+1	576	456
JPM Smaller Co	324½#	+1½	339	230
JPM US Sml Co	390	+1	412	317
Jupiter Euro	877	-6	915	743
JZ Capital Partners	215		224	149
Keystone Inv.Tst	220	+2	231	183¼
Law Debenture	850#		897	721
Lowland Invest Co	125		130	104½
Majedie Inv	240	-2	252	181
Manchester&Lon	826	+18	837	413½
Martin Currie Prtflo Tst	382		397	299
Matrix Inc & Gwth 4	68		73½	66½
Maven Income And Growth VCT	38		40	38
Mercantile Inv Tst	234½		248	177¾
Merchants Tst	564	+3	591	477½
Mid Wynd Int	784		788	670
Monks Inv.Tst	1170	-12	1194	890
Montanaro Euro Tst	139	-1	145	107¼
Montanaro Uk	107½	-½	111½	84¼
Murray Inc.Tst	864	+3	898	770
Murray Int.Tst	252½	+½	261½	219
New India	794	+2	798	532
New Star Inv.Tst	117	+1	123	109½
North Atl.Smlr.Tst	3980	+80	4190	3420
Northern 2 VCT	54½		56½	53
Northern Venture	57½		60	54
Oxford Tech 2 VCT	11		21½	11
Pacific Assets	381#	-1	389	340
Pacific Horizon	627	-1	657	512
Pantheon Int	309½	-1	334	245½
Pershing Square Hold	4304	-2	4334	2704
Polar Cap.Tech	3400	+60	3400	2105
RCM Technology Trust	402	+5	402½	246
RIT Capital Partners	1824	+8	2010	1718
Ruffer Investment	274½	+2½	283½	261
Schroder Asia	533	+7	534¾	456
Schroder Inc	287	-½	301	249
Schroder Japan	255	+2	263	217
Schroder UK	170½	-½	176	141¾
Schroder UK M&S	621	+3	634	482
Scottish American	514#	+6	536	452
Scottish Mortgage	877½#	-19½	904¼	637½
Shires Inc	248	+5	252½	209½
Small Comp Div.Tst	164	-1½	168	131
SPARK VCT	19½		20½	19½
Standard Life Equity	303#	+1	331	260
Standard Life UK Sml	489½	+5	508	370
SVM UK Emerging	65¼		67½	61½
Temple Bar	260½#	+3	275½	212
Templeton Emrg	163	+2	165½	141
The European Inv.Tst	96	-¼	101	75½
Throgmorton Tst	617	-1	641	507
TR Euro.Growth	179½	-1¼	188½	136
TR Prop. IT	318½	-4	345	255
Value & Income	184½	-1	210	163
Witan Inv Trust	262	+½	270	210½
Witan Pacific	204	+1	243	176
Wwide Healthcare	351½#	-3½	358½	288
Financial Services				
3i Group	3100	+21	3105	1848
3i Infrastructure	328#	+3	348	278½
Abrdn	144¼	-3¼	236¾	136¼
Ashmore Group	176¾	-3	232½	166¼
Guinness Peat Group	81½	-1½	88¾	64
Hargreaves Lansdown	1153	+23	1153	690½
IG Group	816	-1½	822½	611
Intermediate Cap.Grp	2220#	-38	2394	1255½
International Pers Fin	122	-3	131	100½
IP Group	44¾	-¾	61½	43½
Jupiter Fund Man	79¼	+¾	115	73½
Liontrust Asset Man	760	-11	855	523½
London Stock Ex	9536	+48	9674	7986
Lonfin	55½	+3	56	32
M&G	203½	-¼	238¾	183
Man Group	247½	-1¾	277¾	202
Paragon Group	770	-6	785½	443½
Provident Financial	49¾	-1¼	198¼	46¼
Rathbone Brothers	1736	+26	1968	1458
S & U	1887½	-5	2450	1800
Schroders	374½	-3	464½	347¼
St James's Place	547	+1½	1183	402
Tullett Prebon	206	-1	227½	141
Walker Crips Group	22½	-½	26½	20½
Fixed Line Telecommunications				
Airtel Africa	118¾	-1	131½	90¾
BT Group	141¼	+¼	142¼	102¼
Telecom Plus	1856	-4	1900	1362
Food & Drug Retailers				
Greggs	2860	-18	2940	2282
Marks & Spencer	302½#	+1¾	311½	185
Ocado	352½	-1	976½	342
Sainsbury (J)	259½#	-1¼	310½	245¾
Tesco	309#	-½	315	245½
Food Producers				
A.B. Foods	2476#	-19	2738	1929½
Anglo-Eastern	676#	-2	790	652
Carr's Milling	140	-½	149¾	93¾
Cranswick	4435	-20	4490	3170
Glanbia	1540		1616¾	1105
Greencore Group	164¼	-1½	176½	68¾
Kerry Grp 'A' Shs	6318¾	-253½	7780	6056¾
Premier Foods	165¼	-¾	176¼	113¼
REA Holdings	95	-¾	97	49¼
Tate & Lyle	677	-3	760	591
Gas, Water & Multiutilities				
Centrica	134¼#	+1½	172½	118½
National Grid	901#	+6¾	1050	838½
Pennon Group	600½	-3½	767	551
Severn Trent	2407#	+16	2728	2265
United Utilities	1010	-4½	1125	900¾
General Industrials				
Bunzl	3006#	+8	3306	2687
DS Smith	352	+1½	413	263¾
Goodwin	7200	+100	7360	4200
Melrose	575	-5	677½	446¾
Mondi	1477	+3½	1604	1179¾
Smiths Group	1698	+5	1766½	1526
Smurfit Kappa	3750	+172	3882	2554
General Retailers				
ASOS	355¼	-3¾	449¾	329
Auto Trader	813½	-1¼	829½	587
B&M Europ Value Ret	471	-2½	612½	463
Caffyns	450		580	433¼
Dixons Carphone	77¾	+½	79¾	43¾
Dunelm	1063	+6	1191	967
Frasers Group	862½		938	683
Halfords Group	139¾	-2	234	139¾
Howden Joinery	881	+2	930½	613
JD Sports	119¼#	+2	175¼	104
Kingfisher	248#	-1	270½	201¼
Next	9004	-36	9426	6582
Pendragon	386	+1	795	313
Pets At Home	301¼#	+3¼	397½	254½
RM Group	82½	+½	103½	48
Topps Tiles	41¼#	-½	56½	40½
WH Smith	1178	-13	1618	1083
Health Care Equipment & Services				
Convatec Group	243	-2	293½	196¼
Flying Brands	1¼		5¾	1¼
Smith & Nephew	990¾	+3	1268	896¼
Household Goods & Home Construction				
Barratt Development	468¾	-13¼	566½	392¼
Bellway	2532#	-56	2860	1921
Berkeley Grp Hldgs	4694	-316	5320	3773
Bovis Homes	1196	-8	1310	636
Colefax Group	855		855	655
Headlam Group	144		268	143½
Mcbride	128½	+1	132	25½
Persimmon	1365	-39½	1498	960½
Reckitt Benckiser	4397	+20	6082	4110
Redrow	663½	-9½	739	427½
Taylor Wimpey	143¾	-3¾	152½	99¾
Industrial Engineering				
Bodycote	718	-9	768	555
Castings	386	+4	419	326
Hill & Smith	1948#	-14	2100	1458
IMI	1789	-11	1901	1445
Northgate	408½	-3½	438	311½
Rotork	329½	+½	343¾	281
Slingsby H.C	310		310	190
Spirax-Sarco	8405	-250	11130	8058
Vesuvius	474		504	390¾
Vitec Group	315	-3	723¼	272
Weir Group	2040	+8	2200	1675½
Xaar	146		190	91¼
Industrial Metals & Mining				
Evraz				
Ferrexpo	43½		95	41½
Industrial Transportation				
Braemar Shipping Serv	290½	+2½	310	224
Clarkson	4195	+40	4250	2550
FirstGroup	153	-2	187¾	140½
Fisher (J) & Sons	314	-1	415	245½
Ocean Wilsons	1305	+5	1475	914
Royal Mail	321½	+¼	336¼	214¼
Leisure Goods				
Games Workshop	10300	+865	11700	9125
Photo-Me Intl	170¼	-1¼	182¾	119½
Life Insurance				
Aviva	478¼	+4	497	369¼
Chesnara	248½	+1	286	246½
Legal & General	227½	+¾	256¼	205¾
Phoenix Group	485¼	+¾	560¾	441½
Prudential	700½	+½	1108½	687½
Media				
4imprint Group	5930	+130	6540	4255
Bloomsbury Publish	616	-2	634	381
Future	1032	+37	1145	577
Informa	856½#	-4½	861¼	685¾
ITV	76		79½	55¼
Pearson	965	+3½	1042	811
Reach	90	-1	92	59
RELX	3587	-4	3591	2442
STV Group	278		290½	176½
Wilmington Group	389	+9½	400	257
WPP Group	735¾#	-5	873¾	681¼
Mining				
Anglo American	2428½	+39½	2773½	1670¼
Anglo Pacific	74¾	-1¼	122	70¾
Antofagasta	2057	+10	2410	1293
BHP Billiton	2233	+11	2700	2175
Centamin Egypt	114¼#	-½	130¼	78¼
Endeavour Mining	1653	+5	1967	1250
Fresnillo	541	-1½	645¼	441½
Gem Diamonds	13	+½	21¾	8
Glencore	456¼	+2¾	501½	369
Hochschild Mining	177½	-¾	188	70¼
Kenmare Res	321½	+3½	460	294
London & Ass.Prop	11½		15½	8½
Petra Diamonds	41¼	-½	76½	37
Rio Tinto	5236	+28	5891	4559
Mobile Telecommunications				
Vodafone Group	71¾#	+1	81	63
Nonequity Investment Instruments				
Oryx Int.Gwth	1340		1450	1020
Rights &Iss.Inc	2400		2460	1805
Nonlife Insurance				
Admiral Group	2577	-12	2837	2029
Beazley Group	696½	+15½	696½	503
Direct Line Insurance	198¾	-¾	225¾	134
Hiscox	1149	+17	1240	938
Lancashire	610	+6	689	538
Oil & Gas Producers				
BP	466¼#	-½	558	444¼
Cairn Energy	184	+1½	375¾	142½
Enquest	13¼	-¼	18½	12
Gulf Keystone Pet	137½	-1¾	146½	84¾
Harbour Energy	301	+4¼	330	218¼
Regal Petroleum	17	+¼	20¾	12¼
Shell	2748#	+14½	2946	2264½
Soco International	24¾#	+¾	26	18¾
Tullow Oil	32½	-½	39½	26½
Oil Equipment, Services & Distribution				
Hunting	406	-3	446	197½
John Wood Group	200	-1½	205¼	125¾
Petrofac	13	-¼	87½	10½
Personal Goods				
Burberry Group	964¾	-15½	2257	964¾
PZ Cussons	102½	+¾	176¼	83
Supergroup	5½	-¾	20½	1½
Unilever	4433	-5	4450	3694
Pharmaceuticals & Biotechnology				
AstraZeneca	12340	-76	12600	9501
Genus	1652	-22	2506	1637
GlaxoSmithKline	1616½#	+4½	1812½	1316
Haleon	325½	+½	341	308½
Hikma	1977	-22	2205	1722
Oxford Biomedica	311½	-7	464½	166¾
Real Estate Investment & Services				
Boot (Henry)	213	+8	228	170
Capital & Regional	61	-1	62	49¼
Cardiff Property	2300#		2450	2240
CLS Holdings	88½	+½	145¾	82
Foxtons	64¾	-1¼	71	34¼
Grainger	236#	-3	274¾	217½
Harworth Group	142½	+½	145	95½
Mountview Est	9700	+25	11450	9400
Panther Secs	315		333	255
Rightmove	557¼	+2½	594¾	463
Savills	1114	-24	1178	763½
Wynnstay Props	680		730	625
Real Estate Investment Trusts				
Big Yellow Group	1162	-28	1264	910
British Land	424¾	-11	444½	291¾
Capital & Counties	138¾	-2¾	147½	102½
Derwent London	2298	-42	2402	1779
F&C Commercial	77¼#	-¾	84	61
Great Portland Est	337½#	-7½	370	295¾
Hammerson	27¾	-½	29¾	21
Helical Bar	228	-2½	279½	185
Land Securities	609½#	-11½	725¼	559½
London & Stamford Prop	194¾#	-1¾	210¼	156½
Primary Health	90¾	-1	106¼	85½
SEGRO	891¼	-27½	940	679¼
Town Centre	147	-1	160	110
Unite Group	894	-12	1057	847
Workspace Group	572	-8	604	454½
Software & Computer Services				
Computacenter	2908#		2944	2026
Gresham Computing	161		163	114
Intec Telecom	71¾			
Just Eat Takeaway	1028	+14	1467	914
Microgen	370	+2	380	230
Moneysupermarket	231	+4½	283¾	208
Sage Group	1078#	+6	1282	868
Triad Group	290		298	105
Support Services				
Ashtead Group	5420	+20	6104	4667
Capita Group	14¼	+¼	30¼	12½
Costain Group	78¾	+1	87	43½
DCC	5645#	-5	6035	4171
De La Rue	97¼	+¼	102	30
Diploma	4134	-20	4252	2804
Essentra	164½#	-6½	190	143½
Experian Group	3713	-7	3779	2390
Falkland Islands	245	-5	273	205
Ferguson	15815#	+5	17685	11690
Hays	101½		110½	88½
Inchcape	754½	+1½	847	624½
Intertek Group	4742#	-50	5075	3755
London Security	3050#		3100	2900
Macfarlane Group	123½	-½	145	99
Mears Group	359	-2	394	253
Michael Page	441¼#	-4¼	498½	365
Mitie Group	119½	+2	124¼	92
Paypoint	630	+4	648	436
Rentokil Initial	450¼	-5	644	392½
Ricardo Group	494	+2	610	404
Robert Walters	420	-2	472	353
RS Group	726#	-5	839½	660½
Serco Group	170¼	-1½	189¾	137
Shanks Group	689	-11	734	450
SIG	27	+¼	38	26¼
Smiths News	56½#		65½	40¾
Speedy Hire	30¾	+2¼	37¾	23½
SThree	424½		439½	332
Travis Perkins	807	-9	914½	692¾
Trifast	71	+1	94	66¼
Technology Hardware & Equipment				
BATM Advanced	16½	-½	29½	16
Spirent	185		200	90
Tobacco				
British Amer.Tob	2440	+15	2735	2267
Imperial Brands	2015#	+8	2020½	1580
Travel & Leisure				
888 Holdings	82	-1¼	130	70½
Carnival	1109½	-11½	1377	811½
Celtic	142½		144¾	116
Compass Group	2226#	+9	2323	1945½
Domino's Pizza	320¾	-2½	424½	275¼
EasyJet	455	+3	577¾	360
Entain	661	-4½	1403½	654½
Flutter Entert	14470	+75	17475	12155
Fuller Smith & Turner	700	+8	728	542
Heavitree	265		290	265
InterContinental Htl	8252	-12	8752	5210
Intl Consolidated Airlines	170	+2	186½	138
Irish Continental Uts	484	+2½	540	366
Marston's	31¼	-¼	39	25¾
Mitchells & Butlers	298	-5	312½	199¼
National Express	47¼	+1	108¼	45½
Rank Group	72¼	-¾	103½	62½
Saga	115½	-¾	156	104½
TUI AG	574	+2	677	401
Wetherspoon (JD)	735	-16½	847½	613
Whitbread	2940#	-15	3678	2855
AIM				
Alumasc Group	192½		204	137½
Arbuthnot Banking	955#	-2½	1105	877½
Boohoo	34½	+¼	42	29¼
Brown (N.) Group	20	-½	25	14
Camellia	4280		5900	4270
Churchill China	1175		1470	1000
CML Microsystems	350		460	297½
CPP Group	165½		191½	122½
Cropper (James)	345		845	230
Dewhurst	1190		1230	710
Fevertree Drinks	1016#	+14	1412	952
Filtronic	72½	+¼	73	13½
Hornby	21		38½	14½
James Halstead	185½	-3	225	184½
Johnson Service	157½	-3½	171¼	101
Mothercare	4¾		8	3¾
Mpac Group	501		530	187½
Naked Wine	59¼	-2¼	106	28½
Nichols	986	-6	1200	882
Norish	14		15	11
Northamber	39½	+½	50½	35
Ovoca Gold	1	+¼	14	+½
Portmeirion	230		412	204
Renold	57¾	-¼	64¾	27¼
Rockhopper Exploratn	15		15¼	10¼
Ten Alps	86½		97½	75
Titon Holdings	77½		90	62½
Volex	348½	+½	354½	270
Young & Co Brewery A	966	-22	1230	946

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Ex-dividend * Ex-rights a Ex-All c Ex-capitalisation † Shares suspended

Racing

Doyle sees Ascot as Elm territory

By **David Yates**

JAMES DOYLE believes tomorrow's Coronation Stakes will see Elmalka "to better effect" than the 1,000 Guineas that turned Roger Varian's filly into a Classic heroine.

Doyle was required to ride in France for his Wathnan Racing bosses when Silvestre de Sousa drove the Kingman filly, right, to a last-gasp neck success from Porta Fortuna over the Rowley Mile on May 5.

The 36-year-old, on board for Elmalka's close third in Newbury's Group Three Fred Darling Stakes 15 days earlier, renews the partnership and Doyle said: "She's a very laid-back filly, which is key at Royal Ascot, and she's a push-button ride.

"The form of the Guineas is working out nicely enough and I think this track and trip – the stiff mile here – should suit her.

"She looked to get a bit unbalanced in the Guineas so I'm sure this test will see her to better effect."

Opera Singer heads William Hill's betting at 7-4 – Elmalka is 9-2 – and Doyle added: "Opera Singer was a very good two-year-old and what she did in France was pretty special."

PUZZLE: Notable Speech ran poorly

SPEECH TEAM UPBEAT

By **David Yates**

NOTABLE SPEECH is "absolutely fit and well" despite surrendering his unbeaten record in Tuesday's St James's Palace Stakes – with Godolphin bosses confident the 2,000 Guineas winner will "bounce back".

Sent off the 6-4 favourite for Royal Ascot's opening-day feature, the Charlie Appleby-saddled colt beat just one of his eight rivals home behind Newmarket runner-up Rosallion.

"I spoke to Charlie this morning and all the indications are that he's absolutely fit and well, so it's a bit of a headscratcher for now," reported Godolphin chief operating officer, Hugh Anderson.

"He's confident he will bounce back, and we can't really say any more than that."

ROYAL ASCOT SKYSPORTSRACING

THE SCOUT

2.30 WHISTLEJACKET
3.05 Going The Distance
3.45 Diamond Rain
4.25 GREGORY (nb)
5.05 CRACKING GOLD (nap)
5.40 Bracken's Laugh
6.15 English Oak

2.30 NORFOLK STAKES (GROUP 2) 2YO £85,065 (Class 1) 5f (14 declared) ITV4

1 1 **AESTERIUS (27) (D)** 9 3 **W Buick** 92
(13) Runs: 1 Wins: 1(G) £3,402
Trainer: A Watson Owner: Wathnan Racing

2 121 **ARIZONA BLAZE (26) (D)** 9 3 **David Egan** 102
(14) Runs: 3 Wins: 2(S,G) Places: 1 £48,835
Trainer: A Murray (IRE) Owner: Amo Racing Limited/giselle De Aguiar

3 1 **BINADHAM (58) (D)** 9 3 **B Sayette** 85
(3) Runs: 1 Wins: 1(F) £3,672
Trainer: K P De Foy Owner: Salhia Stud Limited

4 51 **BLINKY (23) (D)** 9 3 **T Marquand** 87
(9) Runs: 2 Wins: 1(GS) £4,187
Trainer: E Walker Owner: TBT Racing Limited

5 1 **EVENING SAIGON (23) (D,T)** 9 3 **Doubtful**
(1) Runs: 1 Wins: 1(S) £13,043
Trainer: M O'Callaghan (IRE) Owner: Evening Saigon Partnership

6 71 **LOOM (15) (D,T)** 9 3 **B Garritty** 97
(8) Runs: 2 Wins: 1(G) £4,711
Trainer: R Fahey Owner: Peter Timmins & John Rhodes

7 1 **MILFORD (22) (D,T)** 9 3 **C Lee** 96
(12) Runs: 1 Wins: 1(S) £4,806
Trainer: K R Burke Owner: The Milford Partnership

8 12 **MOVING FORCE (12) (D,T)** 9 3 **Oisin Orr** 99
(10) Runs: 2 Wins: 1(F) Places: 1 £16,162
Trainer: R Fahey Owner: Sheikh Rashid Dalmook Al Maktoum

9 122 **ROCK HUNTER (28) (D)** 9 3 **S De Sousa** 99
(5) Runs: 3 Wins: 1(S) Places: 2 £33,259
Trainer: Miss A Murphy Owner: D MacAuliffe, A Don & D De Souza

10 1 **SHAREHOLDER (12) (D,F,T)** 9 3 **James Doyle** 92
(4) Runs: 1 Wins: 1(F) £25,921
Trainer: K R Burke Owner: Wathnan Racing

11 1 **THE MAN (52) (D)** 9 3 **H Doyle** 87
(7) Runs: 1 Wins: 1(A) £5,211
Trainer: R Spencer Owner: Phil Cunningham

12 52 **TROPICAL STORM (46)** 9 3 **O Murphy** 99
(2) Runs: 2 Places: 1 £9,668
Trainer: A Balding Owner: Teme Valley

13 21 ● **WHISTLEJACKET (45) (D,T)** 9 3 **R L Moore** ★109
(11) Runs: 2 Wins: 1(S) Places: 1 £24,487
Trainer: A P O'Brien (IRE) Owner: P Brant/mrs J Magnier/m Tabor/d Smith

14 1 **SATURDAY FLIRT (55) (D)** 9 0 **J Rosario** 99
(6) Runs: 1 Wins: 1(G) £36,126
Trainer: W A Ward (USA) Owner: Mrs Fitri Hay

BLINKERS: No. 14 CHEEK PIECES: No. 9.

Forecast: 11-10 Whistlejacket, 5 Shareholder, 7 Saturday Flirt, 10 Aesterius, 12 Arizona Blaze, 14 Milford, 20 Moving Force, Rock Hunter, Loom, Tropical Storm, 33 Others.

GUIDE: WHISTLEJACKET looked like a colt right out of the top drawer when scoring from Arizona Blaze in Listed company at the Curragh (5f, sft) last month, and this brother to the brilliant Little Big Bear should have plenty more improvement forthcoming. Owners Wathnan Racing could have a big say in proceedings with Beverley (5f, gd-fm) debut winner **Shareholder** and **Aesterius**, who impressed when scoring at Bath (5f, gd), for a pair of trainers who have had success with two-year-olds at the Royal meeting. American raider **Saturday Flirt** and the consistent **Rock Hunter** need considering as well.

3.05 KING GEORGE V STAKES (HERITAGE) 3YO £56,694 (2) 1m 3f 211yds (19) ITV4

1 101-341 **PERSICA (19) (F)** 9 9 **S M Levey** 105
(10) Runs: 7 Wins: 3(A,GS,G) £67,473
Trainer: R Hannon Owner: Martin Hughes & Michael Kerr-Dineen

2 412-63 **GASPER DE LEMOS (33)** 9 6 **D McMonagle** 103
(17) Runs: 5 Wins: 1 £28,853
Trainer: A P O'Brien (IRE) Owner: Mr M Tabor, D Smith & Mrs John Magni

3 6223-13 **CHANTILLY (33) (T)** 9 6 **R L Moore** 109
(7) Runs: 6 Wins: 1(S) Places: 4 £27,522
Trainer: A P O'Brien (IRE) Owner: Mrs J Magnier/m Tabor/d Smith/westerbe

4 311-1 ● **GOING THE DISTANCE (71)** 9 2 **Rossa Ryan** 104
(18) Runs: 4 Wins: 3(S,A,GS) Places: 1 £29,145
Trainer: R Beckett Owner: Mr Marc Chan

5 14-1 **NAVAL FORCE (38) (T)** 9 1 **G M Ryan** 94
(3) Runs: 3 Wins: 2(S) £25,993
Trainer: Donnacha O'Brien (IRE) Owner: Eclipse T'bred/exors Of Albert Frasset

6 531 **GILDED WATER (20)** 9 0 **T Marquand** 106
(6) Runs: 3 Wins: 1(GS) Places: 1 £5,560
Trainer: W Haggas Owner: HM The King & HM The Queen

7 52319-2 **CITY BURGLAR (40)** 9 0 **S De Sousa** 106
(2) Runs: 6 Wins: 1(GS) Places: 3 £20,956
Trainer: R Beckett Owner: Al Wasmiyah Stud

8 13-22 **PONIROS (33)** 9 0 **David Egan** ★110
(14) Runs: 4 Wins: 1(S) Places: 3 £31,786
Trainer: R Beckett Owner: AMO Racing Limited

9 325-111 **FOURONEOHFEVER (26) (D)** 8 12 **Billy Loughnane** 105
(13) Runs: 6 Wins: 3(A,GS,G) Places: 1 £28,819
Trainer: G Boughey Owner: Maranto Manor 1

10 61-0 **KAMBOO (19)** 8 11 **R Kingscote** 101
(5) Runs: 3 Wins: 1(A) £3,672
Trainer: R Hughes Owner: Mr Abdulla Al Mansoori

11 41-614 **WARDA JAMILA (18) (C)** 8 10 **O Murphy** 108
(4) Runs: 5 Wins: 2(GS,G) £18,594
Trainer: A Balding Owner: Mr Sultan Ali

12 84-2 **FRENCH DUKE (34) (S)** 8 10 **W Buick** 104
(12) Runs: 3 Places: 1 £3,460
Trainer: R Varian Owner: Wathnan Racing

13 72-21 **GALLANTLY (43) (T)** 8 10 **W M Lordan** 105
(15) Runs: 4 Wins: 1(G) Places: 2 £18,181
Trainer: A P O'Brien (IRE) Owner: P Brant/mrs J Magnier/m Tabor/d Smith

14 1L3 **NESKI SHERELSKI (38)** 8 9 **M Guyon** 100
(19) Runs: 3 Wins: 1(A) £9,498
Trainer: J P O'Brien (IRE) Owner: Mr Barry Taylor

15 8214-46 **GO DADDY (33)** 8 9 **L Edmunds** 107
(8) Runs: 7 Wins: 1(S) Places: 2 £23,235
Trainer: W Muir & C Grassick Owner: Perspicacious Punters Racing Club

16 52-3 **AUTUMN WINTER (74)** 8 8 **J Crowley** 102
(9) Runs: 3 Places: 2 £4,738
Trainer: A P O'Brien (IRE) Owner: Peter Brant/mrs John Magnier/m Tabor

17 441 **HIGHLAND BLING (13) (D,T)** 8 6 **Miss Rachel King** 101
(16) Runs: 3 Wins: 1(G) £7,739
Trainer: J Harrington (IRE) Owner: Oti Racing/bronsan Racing

18 0L-6212 **EAST INDIA DOCK (19) (D)** 8 6 **H Doyle** 105
(1) Runs: 6 Wins: 1(S) Places: 2 £18,433
Trainer: J Fanshawe Owner: The Gredley Family

19 31-43 **ASSAILANT (64)** 8 5 **S Osborne** 103
(20) Runs: 4 Wins: 1(A) Places: 1 £11,262
Trainer: J & T Gosden Owner: Mr B E Nielsen

BLINKERS: No. 19 CHEEK PIECES: No. 17.

Forecast: 6 Chantilly, 7 Going The Distance, Poniros, 8 Gilded Water, French Duke, 10 Persica, Fouroneohfever, Kamboo, 14 Others.

GUIDE: FOURONEOHFEVER has improved beyond recognition since switching to handicaps this season, scoring three times from as many starts. On the back of a comfortable success at Chester (1m2f, gd-sft), he gets the vote to defy a 6lb rise for the in-form George Boughey team. **Chantilly** performed with plenty of credit when finishing a gallant third in the London Gold Cup at Newbury (1m2f, gd) after cutting out his own fractions and he can emerge as the main danger. The progressive **Persica** completes the shortlist on the back of a ready win at Epsom (1m2f, gd-sft), for all that a 9lb rise asks a question of him.

3.45 RIBBLESDALE STAKES (FILLIES' GROUP 2) 3YO £154,818 (1) 1m 3f 211yds (13) ITV4

1 3-213 **DANIELLE (40)** 9 2 **K Shoemark** 103
(9) Runs: 4 Wins: 1(S) Places: 2 £15,387
Trainer: J & T Gosden Owner: Mr A E Oppenheimer

2 11 ● **DIAMOND RAIN (33) (C,F)** 9 2 **W Buick** 112
(2) Runs: 2 Wins: 2(GS,G) £63,351
Trainer: C Appleby Owner: Godolphin

3 117 **FOREST FAIRY (20) (D)** 9 2 **Rossa Ryan** 104
(4) Runs: 3 Wins: 2(A,G) £72,824
Trainer: R Beckett Owner: Mr G C Myddelton & Mr V E C Taylor

4 43-1L **HIGHER LEAVES (40)** 9 2 **S Foley** 94
(8) Runs: 4 Wins: 1(A) Places: 1 £10,828
Trainer: H De Bromhead (IRE) Owner: J Halley/mrs Ciara Hogan

5 712-33 **JE ZOUS (40)** 9 2 **D McMonagle** 103
(5) Runs: 5 Wins: 1(S) Places: 1 £32,878
Trainer: J P O'Brien (IRE) Owner: Go Racing Ltd

6 1212 **KALPANA (46)** 9 2 **O Murphy** ★115
(1) Runs: 4 Wins: 2(A,G) Places: 2 £35,194
Trainer: A Balding Owner: Juddmonte

7 4851-11 **LAVA STREAM (11) (T)** 9 2 **D Tudhope** 102
(6) Runs: 6 Wins: 3(S,GS,G) £48,464
Trainer: D O'Meara Owner: Elwick Stud

8 7-12 **PORT FAIRY (43) (T)** 9 2 **R L Moore** 104
(10) Runs: 3 Wins: 1(A) Places: 1 £38,839
Trainer: A P O'Brien (IRE) Owner: M Tabor/d Smith/mrs J Magnier/westerbe

9 41 **QUEENS FORT (19) (D)** 9 2 **R Havlin** 90
(7) Runs: 2 Wins: 1(A) £4,893
Trainer: J & T Gosden Owner: Lady Bamford

10 3-229 **RUBIES ARE RED (20) (T)** 9 2 **W M Lordan** 104
(11) Runs: 4 Places: 3 £17,111
Trainer: A P O'Brien (IRE) Owner: D Smith,mrs J Magnier,m Tabor,westerbe

11 48125 **SHEEMA'S ROSE (18)** 9 2 **T Marquand** 102
(3) Runs: 5 Wins: 1(S) Places: 1 £30,546
Trainer: Mme A Karkosa (FR) Owner: Mr Andy Claire

12 13 **SIYOLA (33)** 9 2 **James Doyle** 106
(13) Runs: 2 Wins: 1(GS) £18,581
Trainer: J & T Gosden Owner: Juddmonte

13 15-14 **YOU GOT TO ME (20) (D)** 9 2 **H Crouch** 111
(12) Runs: 4 Wins: 2(A,G) £68,716
Trainer: R Beckett Owner: Valmont & Newsells Park Stud Bldstk 24

VISOR: No. 8 HOOD: No. 7.

Forecast: 7-4 Diamond Rain, 7 Kalpana, 15-2 You Got To Me, 8 Danielle, Port Fairy, 10 Forest Fairy, 12 Rubies Are Red, 14 Siyola, 20 Others.

GUIDE: You Got To Me (fourth), **Forest Fairy** (seventh) **and Rubies Are Red** (ninth) locked horns in the Oaks at Epsom (1m4f, gd-sft) and are of definite interest eased in grade and on a more conventional track. **Kalpana** might have been turned over at odds-on in a Listed contest at Newmarket (1m2f, gd), but she hit the line hard and can find further progress upped in trip. The vote goes to **DIAMOND RAIN**, who maintained her unbeaten record with a taking success at Newbury (1m2f, gd). Charlie Appleby elected to sidestep the Oaks in favour of this contest and, with that in mind, connections must be confident of a big run. **Lava Stream** has a bit to find on official ratings, but it would come as no surprise were she to produce another career best.

4.25 GOLD CUP (GRP 1) (BRITISH CHAMPIONS SERIES) £368,615 (1) 2m 3f 210yds (10) ITV1

1 31L5-01 **COLTRANE (50) (C&D)** 7 9 4 **O Murphy** 119
(10) Runs: 25 Wins: 9(F,GS,G) Places: 8 £876,143
Trainer: A Balding Owner: Mick and Janice Mariscotti

2 2-21275 **ENEMY (42) (C)** 7 9 4 **R Kingscote** 118
(1) Runs: 35 Wins: 5(F,A,GS,G) Places: 11 £962,651
Trainer: I Williams Owner: Tracey Bell & Caroline Lyons

3 11/22-11 **KYPRIOS (34) (C&D,T)** 6 9 4 **R L Moore** 126
(8) Runs: 14 Wins: 10(F,S,G) Places: 1 £1,301,761
Trainer: A P O'Brien (IRE) Owner: Moyglare/magnier/tabor/smith/westerber

4 81-5211 **PRYDWEN (53)** 6 9 4 **C Shepherd** 118
(6) Runs: 26 Wins: 8(A,GS) Places: 6 £219,999
Trainer: G Scott Owner: Blue Starr Racing & Keith Breen

5 1223-31 **SWEET WILLIAM (28)** 5 9 4 **R Havlin** 119
(9) Runs: 11 Wins: 4(F,S,G) Places: 6 £347,646
Trainer: J & T Gosden Owner: Normandie Stud Ltd

6 80111-3 **TRAWLERMAN (82) (C)** 6 9 4 **W Buick** ★127
(3) Runs: 16 Wins: 7(F,A,GS) Places: 4 £839,781
Trainer: J & T Gosden Owner: Godolphin

7 4114-43 **TRUESHAN (28) (C,D)** 8 9 4 **H Doyle** 122
(4) Runs: 28 Wins: 15(S,A,GS,G) Places: 5 £1,840,195
Trainer: A King Owner: SINGULA PARTNERSHIP

8 11/110-2 **VAUBAN (34) (C,T)** 6 9 4 **C T Keane** 123
(5) Runs: 8 Wins: 4(S,G) Places: 1 £155,876
Trainer: W P Mullins (IRE) Owner: Mrs S Ricci

9 11135-3 ● **GREGORY (34) (C,F)** 4 9 3 **James Doyle** 119
(2) Runs: 6 Wins: 3(G) £277,007
Trainer: J & T Gosden Owner: Wathnan Racing

10 6231-22 **CAIUS CHORISTER (28)** 5 9 1 **B Sayette** 122
(7) Runs: 22 Wins: 6(F,G) Places: 7 £208,512
Trainer: D Menuisier Owner: Mr Clive Washbourn

VISOR: No. 5 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 2, 8 CHEEK PIECES: No. 1 HOOD: No. 6.

Forecast: 4-5 Kyprios, 11-2 Gregory, 13-2 Vauban, 8 Trawlerman, 12 Caius Chorister, 14 Coltrane, 16 Sweet William, 33 Trueshan, 50 Others.

GUIDE: A determined winner of this contest (gd-fm) two years ago, **KYPRIOS** went on to score in three subsequent Group 1s and it has been a rebuilding process since then due to injury. The son of Galileo always looked to be doing enough when scoring in a Group 3 at Leopardstown (1m6f, gd) last month and that should have put him spot-on. A fine third on his return at Meydan (2m, gd) in March, **Trawlerman** is of interest because he got the better of the selection on Champions Day here (2m, gd-sft) last October, while stablemate **Gregory** looks likely to improve for this extreme distance. Beaten less than a length as favourite in this (gd-fm) last year, **Coltrane** must be a solid each-way contender as well.

5.05 BRITANNIA STAKES (HERITAGE) (STR) 3YO £61,848 (2) 1m (32) ITV1

1 13-2 **KING'S GAMBLE (19)** 9 9 **D Tudhope** 100
(23) Runs: 3 Wins: 1(G) Places: 2 £43,243
Trainer: R Beckett Owner: Clipper

2 21-23 **WHIP CRACKER (48)** 9 8 **J Crowley** 103
(28) Runs: 4 Wins: 1(A) Places: 2 £24,152
Trainer: R Hughes Owner: Mr Abdulla Al Mansoori

3 2445-11 **FOLLOW ME (26) (T)** 9 7 **S Foley** 105
(27) Runs: 7 Wins: 2(G) Places: 2 £58,611
Trainer: R O'Sullivan (IRE) Owner: Ms Amanda Torrens

4 135-115 **BERGAMASCO (75) (D,T)** 9 6 **Doubtful**
(24) Runs: 10 Wins: 3(A) Places: 2 £43,124
Trainer: J Davison (IRE) Owner: JPD Partnership

5 14L-47 **STARLORE (26) (F)** 9 5 **R Kingscote** 105
(22) Runs: 5 Wins: 1(G) £12,759
Trainer: Sir M Stoute Owner: Juddmonte

6 1217L **CUBAN TIGER (55) (D,T)** 9 5 **C Lee** 105
(6) Runs: 5 Wins: 2(A) Places: 1 £76,694
Trainer: K R Burke Owner: Sheikh Mohammed Obaid Al Maktoum

7 193-106 **WATCH MY TRACER (32)** 9 5 **H Turner** 105
(10) Runs: 8 Wins: 3(F,A,G) £48,035
Trainer: G Scott Owner: Victorious Racing & Fawzi Nass

8 137-624 **BLUE LEMONS (26)** 9 5 **J P Spencer** 108
(8) Runs: 6 Wins: 1(S) Places: 1 £27,091
Trainer: R Hannon Owner: Sullivan B'stock/ Merriebelle Irish Fa

9 12-32 **INVOLVEMENT (26)** 9 3 **C Shepherd** 106
(19) Runs: 4 Wins: 1(F) Places: 3 £37,911
Trainer: S & E Crisford Owner: Mr Sultan Ali

10 116950- **BOBSLEIGH (302)** 9 3 **C Bishop** 105
(18) Runs: 6 Wins: 2(F) £51,510
Trainer: E J-Houghton Owner: The Woodway 20

11 1121-30 **DRAGON LEADER (26)** 9 2 **K Shoemark** 103
(17) Runs: 7 Wins: 4(F,G) Places: 1 £308,021
Trainer: C Cox Owner: Kennet Valley Syndicates Iii

12 1735-02 SON OF MAN (11) 9 0 ......David Egan 111
(9) Runs: 6 Wins: 1(GS) Places: 2 £19,427
Trainer: J Chapple-Hyam Owner: China Horse Club International Limited

13 2310-11 WATCHA MATEY (19) (D) 9 0 ......C T Keane 108
(20) Runs: 9 Wins: 3(F,G) Places: 3 £48,721
Trainer: H Palmer Owner: Austin, Moran, Rowlands, McCallum

14 54-1281 VERCORS (30) 9 0 ......Aurelien Lemaitre 102
(21) Runs: 7 Wins: 2(S) Places: 1 £38,982
Trainer: F Chappet (FR) Owner: Stonestreet Stables Llc & Partners

15 15-2 COGITATE (92) 9 0 ......H Doyle 102
(1) Runs: 3 Wins: 1(G) Places: 1 £13,808
Trainer: C Hills Owner: Mr H Frost

16 1124 ● CRACKING GOLD (55) 8 13 ......Rossa Ryan 106
(5) Runs: 4 Wins: 2(A) Places: 1 £15,881
Trainer: C Cox Owner: Paul & Clare Rooney

17 2210-12 MISSION TO MOON (20) 8 13 ......O Murphy ★112
(33) Runs: 7 Wins: 2(S) Places: 3 £67,029
Trainer: R Varian Owner: King Power Racing Co Ltd

18 11-2341 DASHING DARCEY (12) (D) 8 13 ......S De Sousa 109
(25) Runs: 8 Wins: 3(A,G) Places: 2 £34,889
Trainer: R Varian Owner: Opulence Thoroughbreds

19 312-1 QIRAT (26) 8 13 ......H Crouch 107
(29) Runs: 4 Wins: 2(A,G) Places: 2 £60,435
Trainer: R Beckett Owner: Juddmonte

20 5-141 ARCTIC THUNDER (41) (C) 8 13 ......D Probert 104
(30) Runs: 4 Wins: 2(A,G) £30,914
Trainer: A Balding Owner: Opulence Thoroughbreds

21 431-1 VOLTERRA (48) (D,T)(S) 8 12 ......N Callan 106
(3) Runs: 4 Wins: 2(G) Places: 1 £27,663
Trainer: K Ryan Owner: Sheikh Mohammed Obaid Al Maktoum

22 26-163 AIR COMMANDER (32) 8 11 ......R L Moore 108
(2) Runs: 5 Wins: 1(A) Places: 2 £12,403
Trainer: A P O'Brien (IRE) Owner: D Smith/mrs Magnier/m Tabor/p Brant

23 43-11 MICKLEY (20) (T) 8 11 ......C Rodriguez 107
(15) Runs: 4 Wins: 2(A,GS) Places: 1 £13,026
Trainer: E Bethell Owner: Mr P K Siu

24 23-621 SKUKUZA (34) (D) 8 11 ......W Buick 106
(16) Runs: 5 Wins: 1(G) Places: 3 £22,014
Trainer: E Dunlop Owner: Cayton Park Stud Limited

25 32-41 NATIVE WARRIOR (30) (D,F,T) 8 11 James Doyle 109
(31) Runs: 4 Wins: 1(G) Places: 1 £8,979
Trainer: K R Burke Owner: Wathnan Racing

26 314513 SAFWAN (43) 8 10 ......E Greatrex 102
(13) Runs: 7 Wins: 2(S,A) Places: 1 £30,971
Trainer: R Beckett Owner: Al Shaqab Racing

27 5-81 MILETUS (45) (D) 8 10 ......Doubtful
(4) Runs: 3 Wins: 1(S) £4,320
Trainer: C Hills Owner: McLaren Horse Racing

28 3052-23 THE CAMDEN COLT (48) 8 10 ......S M Levey 108
(26) Runs: 10 Wins: 1(F) Places: 3 £34,293
Trainer: R Hannon Owner: EQ Racing

29 70-1 MONKEY ISLAND (34) 8 10 ......H Davies 102
(12) Runs: 3 Wins: 1(G) £6,480
Trainer: B Meehan Owner: Manton Thoroughbreds VIII

30 31-1L SIR LES PATTERSON (26) 8 9 Billy Loughnane 103
(11) Runs: 4 Wins: 2(A) Places: 1 £8,599
Trainer: Harry Eustace Owner: Suman Hedge Bs, Woodside Bs & D Redver

31 1-42 LAUTREC (34) (D) 8 9 ......B Sayette 106
(32) Runs: 3 Wins: 1(A) Places: 1 £10,887
Trainer: J & T Gosden Owner: Juddmonte

32 083-165 GREY CUBAN (19) 8 9 ......T Marquand 106
(7) Runs: 8 Wins: 1(A) Places: 3 £35,870
Trainer: H Palmer Owner: Roudee Racing 10

BLINKERS: No. 31 VISOR: No. 22 CHEEK PIECES: No. 14 HOOD: No. 7.

Forecast: 10 Qirat, 12 Native Warrior, Mickley, Volterra, Starlore, Air Commander, 14 Skukuza, Lautrec, Follow Me, Dashing Darcey, Cogitate, Involvement, 16 Others.

GUIDE: With a maximum field over the straight mile, luck will play a part, but if **Son Of Man** gets a clear run, he is entitled to go well after his second at Goodwood (7f, gd), with a 2lb rise in the handicap for future contests suggesting he is best in at the weights. **Mickley** has done nothing wrong and was an easy winner at Doncaster (7f, gd-sft) last month. He is a player if he takes to the quicker surface, but **QIRAT** could be the one. Ralph Beckett's gelding pounced late on at Goodwood (7f, gd) under Hector Crouch and will hopefully weave his way through once more off just 4lb higher.

5.40 HAMPTON COURT STAKES (GROUP 3) 3YO (12) ITV1
£85,065 (1) 1m 1f 212yds

1 1212-L AL MUSMAK (35) (C) 9 2 ......S De Sousa 113
(9) Runs: 5 Wins: 2(GS,G) Places: 2 £76,055
Trainer: R Varian Owner: Sheikh Abdullah Almalek Alsabah

2 5241-17 BELLUM JUSTUM (19) (D) 9 2 ......O Murphy 111
(2) Runs: 6 Wins: 2(F,G) Places: 1 £38,803
Trainer: A Balding Owner: King Power Racing Co Ltd

3 15-12 ● BRACKEN'S LAUGH (42) (S) 9 2 D Tudhope 117
(1) Runs: 4 Wins: 2(S,A) £96,650
Trainer: R Hughes Owner: Bernardine and Sean Mulryan

4 21L-316 CAVIAR HEIGHTS (35) (D,T) 9 2 ......C Lee 117
(10) Runs: 7 Wins: 2(G) Places: 2 £58,723
Trainer: K R Burke Owner: Sheikh Mohammed Obaid Al Maktoum

5 21-322 FIRST LOOK (18) 9 2 ......James Doyle ★123
(3) Runs: 5 Wins: 1(A) Places: 3 £341,106
Trainer: A Fabre (FR) Owner: Wathnan Racing

6 17-13 JAYAREBE (42) 9 2 ......S M Levey 115
(12) Runs: 4 Wins: 2(F,G) £47,443
Trainer: B Meehan Owner: Mr Iraj Parvizi

7 812-1 KING'S GAMBIT (33) (D) 9 2 ......W Buick 118
(7) Runs: 4 Wins: 2(GS,G) Places: 1 £65,625
Trainer: Harry Charlton Owner: Mr Mohammed Jaber

8 343-241 PORTLAND (14) (T) 9 2 ......R L Moore 112
(6) Runs: 9 Wins: 2(S,G) Places: 2 £80,875
Trainer: A P O'Brien (IRE) Owner: Mr M Tabor, D Smith & Mrs John Magni

9 1-33 SONS AND LOVERS (28) 9 2 ......T Marquand 111
(4) Runs: 3 Wins: 1(F) £19,388
Trainer: J Chapple-Hyam Owner: Mr H Morriss & Miss K Rausing

10 2115-22 STROMBERG (25) 9 2 ......D McMonagle 107
(11) Runs: 6 Wins: 2 Places: 3 £49,557
Trainer: J P O'Brien (IRE) Owner: Teme Valley

11 421-3 TARAJ (39) (T) 9 2 ......David Egan 113
(5) Runs: 4 Wins: 1(A) Places: 1 £18,850
Trainer: D K Weld (IRE) Owner: AMO Racing Limited

12 2261-45 UNDER THE SUN (55) 9 2 ......Rossa Ryan 111
(8) Runs: 6 Wins: 1(F) Places: 2 £24,483
Trainer: H Palmer Owner: Al Asayl Bloodstock Ltd

TONGUE STRAP: No. 12.

Forecast: 5-2 King's Gambit, 4 First Look, 6 Bracken's Laugh, 8 Jayarebe, Portland, 12 Sons And Lovers, 14 Bellum Justum, Caviar Heights, Taraj, 16 Others.

GUIDE: First Look arrives on the back of a cracking second in the Prix du Jockey Club at Chantilly (1m2f, hvy). A similar performance is sure to see the French raider in the mix, but impressive Newbury (1m2f, gd) London Gold Cup scorer **KING'S GAMBIT** shades the verdict. The Harry Charlton-trained colt looks more than capable of making his mark now entering Group company and he's taken to land this contest en route to even bigger prizes. **Bracken's Laugh** went close in the Dee Stakes at Chester (1m2f, gd) and shouldn't be far away if making the most of the inside draw. **Jayarebe**, the one who was behind in third that day, is 3lb better off.

6.15 BUCKINGHAM PALACE STAKES (HANDICAP) (29) ITV4
£56,694 (2) 7f

1 525-549 MAKE ME KING (33) (D) 4 9 12 ......W Buick 103
(32) Runs: 12 Wins: 2(A,GS) Places: 3 £80,523
Trainer: H Al Jehani (UAE) Owner: Wathnan Racing

2 502-572 NORTHERN EXPRESS (35) (D,F,T) 6 9 12 ...P Mulrennan 108
(18) Runs: 32 Wins: 6(S,F,G) Places: 11 £163,611
Trainer: M Dods Owner: Sekura Group

3 L33030- AWAAL (243) 5 9 11 ......Doubtful
(22) Runs: 11 Wins: 2(S,A) Places: 6 £91,847
Trainer: S & E Crisford Owner: Shaikh Duaij Al Khalifa

4 6475-30 MOSTABSHIR (40) 4 9 11 ......J Crowley 108
(21) Runs: 9 Wins: 2(F,A) £41,917
Trainer: J & T Gosden Owner: Shadwell Estate Company Ltd

5 266-901 CARRYTHEONE (33) (D) 7 9 10 ......P Dobbs 108
(23) Runs: 23 Wins: 4(G) Places: 4 £112,944
Trainer: M Bell Owner: Mr Stuart Mizon

6 11L-547 BARADAR (26) (C&D) 6 9 10 ......David Egan 104
(16) Runs: 22 Wins: 5(G,S) Places: 2 £175,145
Trainer: G Boughey Owner: AMO Racing Limited

7 0-L4061 RHOSCOLYN (20) (D,T) 6 9 10 ......J P Spencer 110
(29) Runs: 49 Wins: 8(F,S,GS) Places: 6 £276,773
Trainer: D O'Meara Owner: The Horse Watchers

8 01062-5 ROPEY GUEST (40) (D) 7 9 9 ......T P Queally 107
(12) Runs: 43 Wins: 4(F,A,GS,G) Places: 7 £302,264
Trainer: G Margarson Owner: John Guest Racing

9 0203-21 PERCY'S LAD (41) 6 9 8 ......R Kingscote 107
(1) Runs: 25 Wins: 6(F,G) Places: 7 £119,168
Trainer: D & C Kubler Owner: Mr Alan Kerr

10 16-5970 TACARIB BAY (39) (D) 5 9 8 Alec Voikhansky(3) 109
(10) Runs: 24 Wins: 3(S,A) Places: 4 £144,468
Trainer: R Hannon Owner: Mr J R Shannon

11 1382-21 ● ENGLISH OAK (26) (D,F) 4 9 8 James Doyle ★111
(26) Runs: 7 Wins: 2(S,F) Places: 3 £44,750
Trainer: E Walker Owner: Wathnan Racing

12 4126-10 MR PROFESSOR (47) 5 9 7 ......S De Sousa 106
(9) Runs: 31 Wins: 5(S,A,F) Places: 4 £178,793
Trainer: D F Davis Owner: AMO Racing Limited

13 049-601 FINN'S CHARM (11) (D,T) 4 9 7(5ex)...J Fanning 107
(2) Runs: 15 Wins: 3(GS,G) Places: 1 £77,915
Trainer: C Johnston Owner: Dr J Walker

14 12505-4 ALZAHIR (41) (D,T) 4 9 5 ......D Tudhope 107
(25) Runs: 10 Wins: 2(A,G) Places: 2 £226,093
Trainer: D O'Meara Owner: Mr George Turner & Clipper

15 478837 BOPEDRO (20) (D,T) 8 9 5 ......Jason Watson 107
(24) Runs: 50 Wins: 8(S,F,GS,G) Places: 12 £229,262
Trainer: D O'Meara Owner: Mr Georginio Rutter

16 136-130 DARK THIRTY (20) (D) 4 9 5 ......S M Levey 109
(11) Runs: 20 Wins: 4(G) Places: 4 £106,958
Trainer: R Hannon Owner: Martin Hughes & Michael Kerr-Dineen

17 70L0-42 GORAK (33) (D) 5 9 5 ......C Shepherd 109
(3) Runs: 25 Wins: 3(S,F) Places: 6 £79,170
Trainer: C Fellowes Owner: First Tuesday Syndicate

18 323-913 DIVINE LIBRA (33) (D) 4 9 4 ......R L Moore 109
(28) Runs: 12 Wins: 3(S,G) Places: 4 £56,585
Trainer: C Hills Owner: McLaren Horse Racing

19 3-95066 KOY KOY (20) (D) 5 9 4 ......Billy Loughnane 104
(31) Runs: 19 Wins: 3(F,A,G) Places: 5 £74,574
Trainer: G Boughey Owner: Mr Charlie Rosier & Mrs Julia Rosier

20 L47053 THE X O (20) 4 9 4 ......Rossa Ryan 108
(27) Runs: 15 Wins: 2(A) Places: 5 £63,615
Trainer: J Ryan Owner: Newsells Park Stud-waldmark Syn &Verri

21 247224 BILLYJOH (12) 4 9 2 ......H Doyle 109
(19) Runs: 16 Wins: 4(A,G) Places: 4 £53,767
Trainer: M Appleby Owner: Clearthem Glass Sealed Units Ltd

22 2858L7 SUMMERGHAND (33) (T) 10 9 2...D McMonagle 109
(13) Runs: 96 Wins: 17(S,F,A,G) Places: 22 £616,549
Trainer: D O'Meara Owner: Mr Salem Rashid Bin Ghadayer

23 60L-505 FRESH (12) (C&D) 7 9 1 ......H Turner 107
(30) Runs: 32 Wins: 4(F,A,GS) Places: 8 £211,683
Trainer: J Fanshawe Owner: Clipper

24 15103-0 MAYWAKE (19) (D,T) 6 9 1 ......Oisin Orr 109
(20) Runs: 25 Wins: 5(S,A,GS,G) Places: 12 £72,080
Trainer: R Fahey Owner: Mr & Mrs Leonard Bird

25 229-235 SOUS LA NEIGE (20) 4 9 1 ......T Marquand 106
(6) Runs: 9 Wins: 1(A) Places: 6 £43,523
Trainer: G Hernon (FR) Owner: A Don/d Macauliffe

26 3/2410-1 KINGS TIME (41) (D,T) 4 9 1 ......S Foley 103
(5) Runs: 6 Wins: 2(G) Places: 1 £65,934
Trainer: J Harrington (IRE) Owner: Newtown Anner Stud Farm

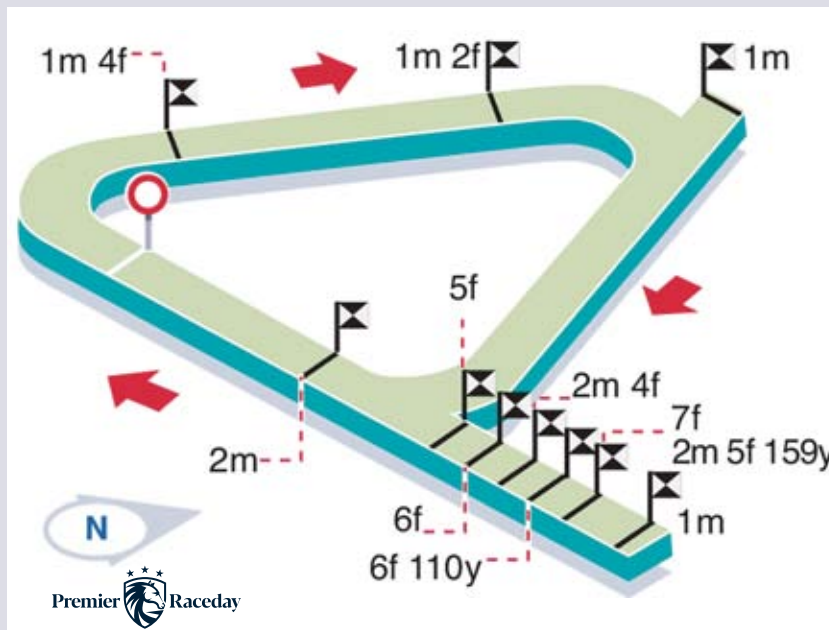
27 2-36220 GREATGADIAN (83) 6 9 1 ......A Keeley(3) 107
(4) Runs: 32 Wins: 5(F,A) Places: 8 £94,786
Trainer: R Varian Owner: King Power Racing Co Ltd

28 35-30L1 STERLING KNIGHT (7) (C,D) 5 9 1(5ex) C T Keane 106
(17) Runs: 35 Wins: 8(F,S,A,GS,G) Places: 5 £93,572
Trainer: E Dunlop Owner: Mr Paul Turner

29 745-108 MUSTAJAAB (12) (D) 4 9 0 ......L Edmunds 109
(14) Runs: 12 Wins: 3(A,GS) £17,592
Trainer: W Muir & C Grassick Owner: Mr Khalifa Dasmal

BLINKERS: No. 4 VISOR: Nos. 8, 15, 22 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 3, 5, 6, 7, 14, 19, 23, 26 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 1, 6, 10, 17, 28 HOOD: Nos. 5, 14.

Forecast: 5 English Oak, 8 Divine Libra, 10 Mostabshir, 12 Northern Express, Awaal, 14 Percy's Lad, 16 Carrytheone, Gorak, Ropey Guest, Kings Time, Fresh, 20 Others.

GUIDE: CARRYTHEONE was too keen for his own good when midfield on his debut for this stable at Newmarket (7f, gd) three starts ago, and he was no better in the Victoria Cup here (7f, gd). However, when a hood was reapplied back at Newmarket (7f, gd), he went on to score, despite enduring a troubled passage. With a strongly-run race over a stiff 7f promising to suit, a 2lb rise might not be enough to anchor him. **English Oak** scored easily at Haydock (7f, sft) and, even accounting for a 9lb rise, another bold bid looks likely. **Fresh** probably isn't as good as he once was but his mark reflects that and he can make his presence felt, along with **Summerghand** and **Kings Time**.

TRACK FACTS: GOING: Good to Firm. Right Handed. **TOP TRACK JOCKEY (2019-24):** Ryan Moore 12% Strike rate. **TOP TRACK TRAINER (2019-24):** J & T Gosden 15% Strike rate. **FIRST TIME:** 2.30 Saturday Flirt (blinkers), Rock Hunter (cheek pieces), 3.45 Port Fairy (visor), 5.05 Lautrec (blinkers), Vercors (cheek pieces), Watch My Tracer (hood), Air Commander (visor), 6.15 Make Me King (cheek pieces), Koy Koy (tongue strap), Awaal (tongue strap). **BEATEN FAVOURITES:** 3.05 Autumn Winter, Gasper De Lemos, Warda Jamila(hcp). 3.45 Danielle, Je Zous, Kalpana. 4.25 Caius Chorister. 5.05 Air Commander(hcp), King's Gamble, Mission To Moon(hcp). 5.40 Jayarebe. 6.15 Awaal(hcp), Baradar(hcp), Billyjoh(hcp), Divine Libra(hcp), Koy Koy(hcp). **DRAW:** No significant advantage. **LONGEST TRAVELLER: Sheema's Rose** (3.45), **Vercors** (5.05), **First Look** (5.40), **Sous La Neige** (6.15) France; **Whistlejacket** (2.30), **Naval Force** (3.05), **Autumn Winter** (3.05), **Gallantly** (3.05), **Chantilly** (3.05), **Gasper De Lemos** (3.05), **Rubies Are Red** (3.45), **Port Fairy** (3.45), **Kyprios** (4.25), **Air Commander** (5.05), **Portland** (5.40) Ireland; **Make Me King** (6.15) United Arab Emirates; **Northern Express** (6.15) 259 miles; **Saturday Flirt** (2.30) United States. **STABLE SWITCH:** 5.05 **Safwan** from E D Monfort to R Beckett.

VITAL STATISTICS

IN-FORM TRAINERS (last 10 days) J Chapple-Hyam 67% (1 wins and 3 places from 6 runners), G Boughey 55% (11/7/33), J Fanshawe 55% (2/4/11), W Muir & C Grassick 55% (3/3/11), Harry Eustace 53% (2/6/15), W Haggas 51% (7/11/35), D K Weld 50% (4/2/12), M Keighley 50% (1/4/10), S England 50% (3/1/8), S Pearce 50% (1/1/4), W Knight 50% (3/4/14).

IN-FORM JOCKEYS Molly Gunn 75% (2 wins and 1 places from 4 runners), Amie Waugh 60% (2/4/10), D E Hogan 59% (4/6/17), Josephine Gordon 57% (1/3/7), Callum Hutchinson 56% (2/3/9), Ross Coakley 55% (2/4/11), Grace McEntee 50% (1/1/4), Miss Brodie Hampson 50% (1/1/4).

GOSSIP FROM THE GALLOPS

Newmarket:
FRENCH DUKE
(3.05 Ascot)
North:
VOLTERRA
(5.05 Ascot)
Lambourn:
BRACKEN'S LAUGH
(5.40 Ascot)
South:
STORMINGIN
(6.25 Lingfield)

RAIN DANCE: Diamond Rain is tipped to score in the Ribblesdale Stakes

GREGORY TO GRAB GOLD

By **The Scout** (Melissa Jones)

GREGORY (4.25, nb) is a safe bet to strengthen the Gosden family's impressive record in the Gold Cup today.

Father John and son Thady, training in tandem since 2021, provided Frankie Dettori with Royal Ascot win number 81 in last year's feature contest.

Gosden senior was racing solo when Flat racing's celebrity jockey plundered a race hat-trick on fan favourite Stradivarius in 2020.

And a year on from their historic achievement with Courage Mon Ami, owners Wathnan Racing can enter the winners' circle with Gregory.

From a family his stable knows well, with a smart sire and dam, the stayer was steered to success by Dettori in the 2023 Queen's Vase.

On just his third career outing, Gregory pushed the pace and kept on purposefully for the first prize at 1m 6f.

After such rapid early progress, he was unable to match the form later on – but returned to action with an encouraging third in the Yorkshire Cup.

My selection has age on his side to bridge a 6lb gap with 2022 champion Kyprios, whose odds do not reflect his current rating in an interesting edition.

The favourite's partnership are after the first gold medal with Norfolk Stakes hotpot **WHISTLEJACKET** (2.30, trb).

Gosdens can seal another Gold Cup win

Out to emulate sire No Nay Never, Coolmore's juvenile sprinter is going places fast based on his Listed Curragh exploits.

Punters will fancy their chances of winning more cash with **DIAMOND RAIN** (3.45) in the Ribblesdale Stakes.

Unbeaten in two appearances, Charlie Appleby's filly was merely nudged out by William Buick to collect on her first Listed venture.

On pedigree, a new distance of 1m 4f is a catalyst for further improvement and a Group Two result on day three.

Horses rated 90-95 with an unexposed profile regularly scoop the Britannia Stakes, which has 32 runners going to post.

Smooth last-time out scorers Qirat and Volterra are in the right bracket, but there is more juice in **CRACKING GOLD**'s (5.05, Nap) price.

Clive Cox's chestnut is from the same family as Crack On Crack On, sent off favourite for its 2018 running.

He then took a mile handicap at Berkshire's circuit and has had just one turf start at the trip.

One of a select number kept in training by owners Paul and Clare Rooney, the colt began life on the all-weather at Lingfield and Kempton – form which has often been built upon at Ascot.

After just four outings, a 52-break and with top jockey Rossa Ryan in charge, there are persuading factors to have an interest at 25-1.

Another ride on his books, **GOING THE DISTANCE** (3.05), tops a lengthy King George V Stakes shortlist after his ready Kempton success 71 days ago.

Hampton Court Stakes hope **BRACKEN'S LAUGH** (5.40) has a solid profile, while Ed Walker's **ENGLISH OAK** (6.15) can send punters home happy on Day Three by winning the Buckingham Palace Stakes.

GREGORY SEC: Gregory aims for a second Royal Ascot success

RIPON SSR

THE SCOUT
1.35 Stellarmasterpiece
2.05 An Realta Carraig
2.40 Canaria Queen
3.20 Ey Up Its The Boss
3.55 Mr Wagyu
4.35 My Noble Lord
5.10 Evelyn's Phoenix

1.35 HANDICAP (FEMALE AMATEUR JOCKEYS) £3,477 (Cl 6)1m 4f 10yds (10 declared)
1 (3) 71-6 SAMEEM (24) (C&D) T Easterby 8 10 9..Mrs Emily Roberts
2 (5) 1/13 CLIFFTOP HEAVEN (13) (D,F,T) A Watson 7 10 8 Miss B Hampson
3 (7) 3-31 ● STELLARMASTERPIECE (38) (D,F) M Hammond 4 10 6 Miss Becky Smith
4 (8) L45 VALLAMOREY (55) S England 6 10 6.....Miss Amy Collier
5 (10) 784 PERIPETEIA (20) (C,D) P Kirby 6 10 3.............Miss J Bedi
6 (6) 865 HEATHERDOWN HERO (22) R Menzies 5 10 2..Miss Alex Garven
7 (9) 762 CAN CAN GIRL (22) (D) Craig Lidster 6 10 0..Miss A Keighley
8 (1) 314- POINT OF HONOUR (J222) (D) D Brooke 9 9 13..Miss P Brown
9 (4) 3-58 RAYENA (2) R Fahey 4 9 9..............Miss L Teal
10 (2) L-LL FAST DEAL (J13) M Chapman 7 9 9...........Miss S Bowen

TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 4, 9 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 1, 2 HOOD: No. 6.
SOFT/HEAVY WINNERS: Nos. 1, 4.
W-Factor: Can Can Girl (57); Heatherdown Hero (56); Stellarmasterpiece (55).
SP FORECAST: 4 Stellarmasterpiece, 9-2 Can Can Girl, Clifftop Heaven, 5 Sameem, 8 Point Of Honour, 10 Rayena, Peripeteia, 12 Others.

2.05 EBF RESTRICTED NOVICE STAKES2YO £4,860 (5) 6f (11)
1 (5) 4 ● AN REALTA CARRAIG (9) A Keatley 9 7....O McSweeney(3)
2 (8) 6 GLITTER CODE (9) W Knight 9 7..........Brandon Wilkie(5)
3 (9) LINE OF FORCE K R Burke 9 7..........S Gray
4 (7) 4 STAPLEFORD PARK (26) C Fellowes 9 7..........K Stott
5 (1) CAPLA DAVIEKINS M & D Easterby 9 5......Joanna Mason
6 (4) ITSALLABOUTUS R Fahey 9 5..........D Nolan
7 (3) 3 LOVELY SPIRIT (23) R Fahey 9 2..........Ryan Sexton
8 (2) SHANTI SHANTI J & S Quinn 9 2..........JP Sullivan
9 (6) 7 SHIELAS WELL (6) G Tuer 9 2..........T Eaves
10 (11) 315 UNTHINKABLE (2) (F) P Kirby 9 2..........C Beasley
11 (10) 44 TOOTA (21) T Easterby 9 0..........D Allan

SOFT/HEAVY WINNERS: Nos. 10.
W-F: Unthinkable (77); Lovely Spirit (74); An Realta Carraig (70).
SP FORECAST: 5-2 Line Of Force, 7-2 Lovely Spirit, 4 Unthinkable, 7 An Realta Carraig, 10 Stapleford Park, 12 Shanti Shanti, 14 Others.

2.40 GRANTLEY HALL HANDICAP £3,664 (6) 6f (11)
1 (7) 433 BURJ MALINKA (14) (D) Adrian Nicholls 6 9 10...P Mathers
2 (3) 711 RUN THIS WAY (21) (C&D) P Midgley 6 9 10.........D Nolan
3 (1) L55 IMPRESSOR (14) (D) Phillip Makin 7 9 10..........R Scott
4 (9) 214 WHITE UMBRELLA (28) (D) C Kellett 5 9 9......C Beasley
5 (2) 552 ● CANARIA QUEEN (9) (D) T Easterby 4 9 8........D Allan
6 (4) 804 NIGHTS OVER EGYPT (16) (D) R Menzies 4 9 7..Joanna Mason
7 (10) 8L8 GREATEST TIME (16)(T) P Evans 4 9 6..........P Dennis
8 (6) 249 REDROSEZORRO (20) (D) C Kellett 10 9 2...Brandon Wilkie(5)
9 (8) 972 HURSTWOOD (21) (C&D) P Niven 7 9 0......Mark Winn(3)
10 (5) 442 OPAL STORM (13) B Rothwell 4 8 12..........JP Sullivan
11 (11) 75-3 FLAVIUS TITUS (48) (C&D) D Brooke 9 8 8.K S McHugh(7)

VISOR: Nos. 2, 6 TONGUE STRAP: No. 10 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 3, 8, 11.
SOFT/HEAVY WINNERS: Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9.
W-Factor: Canaria Queen (78); Nights Over Egypt (77); White Umbrella (76).
SP FORECAST: 5-2 Run This Way, 4 Burj Malinka, Canaria Queen, 8 White Umbrella, 10 Opal Storm, Hurstwood, 14 Flavius Titus, 16 Others.

TRACK FACTS: GOING: Soft. Right Handed. **TOP TRACK JOCKEY (2019-24):** David Allan 19% Strike rate. **TOP TRACK TRAINER (2019-24):** T Easterby 14% Strike rate. **FIRST TIME:** 1.35 Vallamorey (tongue strap), Point Of Honour (wind surgery). **BEATEN FAVOURITES:** 2.05 Lovely Spirit. 2.40 Burj Malinka(hcp). 5.10 Evelyn's Phoenix(hcp). **DRAW:** Low numbers favoured on the sprint course. **LONGEST TRAVELLER: Greatest Time** (2.40) & **Loose Tongue** (5.10) 214 miles. **STABLE SWITCH:** 1.35 **Point Of Honour** from Craig Lidster to D Brooke. 3.20 **Fountain Cross** from A King to T Easterby.

3.20 GRAND FINALE CLASSIC HANDICAP £4,711 (5)1m 1f 170yds (7)
1 (5) 007/ FOUNTAIN CROSS (611) T Easterby 6 10 4......S B Kirrane
2 (3) 213 ● EY UP ITS THE BOSS (21) (C&D) Tony Coyle & Kaine Wood 5 10 4 D Nolan
3 (7) 872 HORTZADAR (14) (C) D O'Meara 9 10 1........Mark Winn(3)
4 (2) 431 GARDEN OASIS (15) (C,D,F) T Easterby 9 9 11.......D Allan
5 (6) 16-0 VERY EXCELLENT (17) (D) M Sowersby 8 9 10....JP Sullivan
6 (1) 958 LOVE WARRIOR (27) C Johnston 3 8 12..........F Norton
7 (4) 392 UP THE JAZZ (14) R Fahey 3 8 12..........C Murtagh

BLINKERS: No. 4.
SOFT/HEAVY WINNERS: Nos. 3, 5.
W-Factor: Garden Oasis (78); Very Excellent (77); Up The Jazz (76).
SP FORECAST: 9-4 Ey Up Its The Boss, 3 Garden Oasis, 7-2 Hortzadar, 4 Up The Jazz, 12 Love Warrior, 16 Fountain Cross, 33 Very Excellent.

3.55 RIPON RACES LADIES DAY HANDICAP £12,885 (2) 6f (7)
1 (3) 262 ● MR WAGYU (19) (C&D,F) J & S Quinn 9 9 9....JP Sullivan
2 (6) 697 ABERAMA GOLD (18) (D) D O'Meara 7 9 7..........D Nolan
3 (2) 803 MARINE WAVE (18) R Fahey 4 9 7.......Brandon Wilkie(5)
4 (5) 821 DAKOTA GOLD (24) (C&D) M Dods 10 9 6.........C Beasley
5 (7) 855 TWELFTH KNIGHT (15) (C&D) P Midgley 5 9 1. Ryan Sexton
6 (4) 061 MANILA SCOUSE (14) (D) T Easterby 5 9 0...D Fentiman
7 (1) 4L6 BAY BREEZE (15) (C&D) T Easterby 5 8 8...Amie Waugh(5)

VISOR: Nos. 1, 2 TONGUE STRAP: No. 6.
SOFT/HEAVY WINNERS: Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7.
W-F: Aberama Gold (108); Manila Scouse (102); Mr Wagyu (101).
SP FORECAST: 7-4 Mr Wagyu, 4 Dakota Gold, 5 Manila Scouse, 6 Marine Wave, 13-2 Aberama Gold, 12 Twelfth Knight, 14 Bay Breeze.

4.35 MASONS HANDICAP 3YO £3,664 (5)1m 4f 10yds (6)
1 (6) 5-26 FREDS MATE (31) C Johnston 9 11..........F Norton
2 (4) 261 FILIBUSTERING (23) (F) T Easterby 9 11..........D Allan
3 (5) 451 CONTINUANCE (20) M Keighley 9 9..........Mark Winn(3)
4 (2) 8-54 CARNIVAL DAY (10) D M Simcock 9 7..........T Eaves
5 (3) 141 ● MY NOBLE LORD (24) (D,F) M Bell 9 7..........K Stott
6 (1) 947 GREENLIGHTFORGO (23) T Easterby 9 4.......D Fentiman

HOOD: No. 3.
SOFT/HEAVY WINNERS: Nos. 2.
W-F: Continuance (80); My Noble Lord (79); Filibustering (77).
SP FORECAST: 6-4 My Noble Lord, 7-4 Filibustering, 9-2 Continuance, 14 Carnival Day, 16 Greenlightforgo, Freds Mate.

5.10 HARROGATE RADIO HANDICAP 3YO £3,664 (6) 1m (10)
1 (1) 132 ● EVELYN'S PHOENIX (12) T Easterby 9 11..........D Allan
2 (3) 522 MAMBHA (21) (F) M Dods 9 10..........C Beasley
3 (5) 331 LOOSE TONGUE (20) (D,T) P Evans 9 10..........P Dennis
4 (6) 7-57 SEAHORSE SYD (16) (D) O Pears 9 9..........H Russell
5 (9) 466 CROWN'S LADY (20) Craig Lidster 9 9..........W Pyle(5)
6 (2) 842 EMU WAR (2) K R Burke 9 8..........Brandon Wilkie(5)
7 (4) 90-5 PAPAGREY (15) T Easterby 9 6..........S B Kirrane
8 (8) 354 ASPIRE TO GLORY (23) Alice Haynes 9 3..........D Keenan
9 (10) 0L4 WHATWOULDIKNOW (12) N Tinkler 9 2......F McManoman
10 (7) 656 LIKLEMAN (17) S G West 9 0..........JP Sullivan

VISOR: No. 6 TONGUE STRAP: No. 8 HOOD: Nos. 3, 8.
W-Factor: Loose Tongue (68); Mambha (67); Emu War (66).
SP FORECAST: 3 Evelyn's Phoenix, 4 Mambha, Loose Tongue, 7 Aspire To Glory, 8 Crown's Lady, 10 Whatwouldiknow, Emu War, 20 Others.

CHELMSFORD CITY RTV

THE SCOUT
2.15 Never Know
2.50 Almaty Star
3.30 Qamari
4.10 Stay Well
4.50 Brassavola
5.20 Valkyrian

2.15 EBF RESTRICTED MAIDEN STAKES 2YO £4,187 (Class 5) 6f (10 declared)
1 (4) 7 DARK THUNDERSTORM (35) Alice Haynes 9 7.. K O'Neill
2 (3) 32 FORO ROMANO (58) G Boughey 9 7..........T Jakes(5)
3 (9) 8 ● NEVER KNOW (16) J Tate 9 7..........A Rawlinson
4 (8) 44 SIR PALAMEDES (27) C Fellowes 9 7..........R Dawson
5 (5) 66 BEAUHAATHER (27) Miss A Murphy 9 5... Laura Pearson
6 (1) 553 CYCLONITE (16) J Ferguson 9 5..........D Muscutt
7 (7) 6L LIFT LADY (20) K P De Foy 9 2..........J Mitchell
8 (2) 7 LOVE ROCK (15) I Mohammed 9 2..........C Bennett
9 (10) 0 TELFORD (6) H Morrison 9 2..........F Marsh
10 (6) SUNSHINE STATE(T) C Johnston 9 0..........J Hart

BLINKERS: No. 6.
W-Factor: Foro Romano (76); Cyclonite (73); Sir Palamedes (69).
SP FORECAST: 2 Cyclonite, 5-2 Foro Romano, 5 Sunshine State, 8 Sir Palamedes, Never Know, 12 Lift Lady, 16 Others.

2.50 ESPRIT COUTURE 1ER CRU HANDICAP £6,281 (4) 5f (9)
1 (8) 162- EMPEROR SPIRIT (376) (C) R Cowell 6 9 10....D Muscutt
2 (7) 504 PRINCESS SHABNAM (29) (C,D,F) S Woods 5 9 8 Kaiya Fraser(5)
3 (3) 315 ROCKING ENDS (10) (D) Tom Clover 4 9 7........J Mitchell
4 (5) 450 LORD RIDDIFORD (19) (C&D,T) J & S Quinn 9 9 7.J Hart
5 (9) L53 HARRY BROWN (16) (C&D) D M Simcock 4 9 5.J Haynes
6 (1) 532 ● ALMATY STAR (16) (D) R Cowell 4 8 13........R Dawson
7 (2) 111 DARK SIDE PRINCE (28) (C&D,F) Jessica Macey 7 8 8 H Shaw
8 (6) 105 BURABACK (14) (C&D) D Shaw 5 8 4..........R Da Silva
9 (4) 682 THE DEFIANT (2) (C&D) L Dace 8 8 4...Mia Nichiolls(5)

TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 1, 9 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 1, 6, 7, 8, 9.
W-Factor: The Defiant (99); Buraback (97); Dark Side Prince (96).
SP FORECAST: 7-2 Dark Side Prince, 4 Emperor Spirit, Almaty Star, 6 Princess Shabnam, Rocking Ends, 8 Harry Brown, 12 Buraback, 16 Others.

3.30 RESTRICTED MAIDEN FILLIES' STAKES £4,187 (5) 1m 2f (12)
1 (10) 33 POSITIVIA (28) (F,T) J & S Quinn 4 9 10..........J Hart
2 (12) 53- EXPECTED ARRIVAL (187) K P De Foy 3 9 2.....J Mitchell
3 (9) 4 LOVES LOVING (26) J & T Gosden 3 9 2..........K O'Neill
4 (3) 3- ● QAMARI (216) (F) J Tate 3 9 2..........R Dawson
5 (11) 5-L SPRINGBECAMESUMMER (26) M Bell 3 9 2.........F Marsh
6 (2) 7-9 TEATIME (51) J Chapple-Hyam 3 9 2.........Laura Pearson
7 (8) 09 CHELSEA FLOWER (14) James Owen 3 9 0......... J F Egan
8 (6) L4-2 EHTIRAM (23) Owen Burrows 3 9 0..........D Muscutt
9 (5) 764 INBETWEENUS (10) G Kelleway 3 9 0..........J Peate(3)
10 (4) 9-7 KIMCHI (23) R Guest 3 8 12..........G Rooke
11 (7) 60 LARENTA (14) J Feilden 3 8 12..........R Ffrench
12 (1) 0-L MASAR WAY (23) R Guest 3 8 12..........A Rawlinson

HOOD: No. 9.
W-Factor: Ehtiram (70); Loves Loving (68); Positivia (65).
SP FORECAST: 3 Ehtiram, 10-3 Loves Loving, 4 Qamari, 9-2 Expected Arrival, 8 Positivia, 14 Springbecamesummer, 16 Others.

4.10 BIOLOGYBYCLARE.COM HANDICAP £13,085 (3) 1m 2f (8)
1 (1) 0L6- ENFJAAR (229) (C) R Varian 4 9 9..........J Mitchell
2 (7) 0-03 ● STAY WELL (14) (D) H Morrison 6 9 5..........F Marsh
3 (3) 1/1-8 TARJEEH (26) (F) Owen Burrows 4 9 4..........D Muscutt
4 (8) 051 WADACRE GOMEZ (14) (C&D,T) C Johnston 4 9 4 J Hart
5 (5) 84-5 DIAMOND RANGER (14) J Osborne 5 9 2......W Carver(3)
6 (2) LLL ZEALOT (14) (C&D) M Appleby 6 8 13..........A Rawlinson
7 (4) 251- SNIPER'S EYE (266) D M Simcock 4 8 11..........J Haynes
8 (6) 2LL ROXANNE (17) E Dunlop 4 8 7..........R Dawson

CHEEK PIECES: No. 6 HOOD: Nos. 1, 7, 8.
W-Factor: Zealot (106); Roxanne (105); Stay Well (104).
SP FORECAST: 3 Wadacre Gomez, 10-3 Sniper's Eye, 5 Tarjeeh, Enfjaar, 13-2 Stay Well, 10 Diamond Ranger, 12 Zealot, 16 Roxanne.

4.50 VILLA COLLET HANDICAP £6,281 (5) 1m 2f (10)
1 (7) 635 MILDYJAMA (28) (D) P Chamings 4 9 10.........T Jakes(5)
2 (6) 34L MOAB (12) Miss H Knight 4 9 10..........S W Kelly
3 (3) 571 MARION'S BOY (19) (C&D,F) R Teal 7 9 9..........F Marsh
4 (4) 86-6 ● BRASSAVOLA (19) K P De Foy 5 9 7..........D Muscutt
5 (10) 231- EARLY MORNING DEW (434) (C&D) J & S Best 8 9 7 Jimmy Quinn
6 (5) 130/ RIVER ALWEN (1097) (D) Craig Benton 6 9 7 Rhiain Ingram(3)
7 (8) 653 SHAHEEN SAQAAR (19) E Dunlop 4 9 4..........J Mitchell
8 (9) 245 JENSON BENSON (126) (C&D) S Lycett 6 9 4.........J Hart
9 (2) 422 NIGHT BREEZE (8) I Williams 4 9 0..........H Burns(3)
10 (1) 131 CHOURMO (13) (D) M Gillard 4 8 10..........J F Egan

BLINKERS: Nos. 1, 4, 6 VISOR: No. 3 HOOD: No. 10.
W-F: Night Breeze (81); Shaheen Saqaar (80); Brassavola (77).
SP FORECAST: 7-2 Marion's Boy, 9-2 Early Morning Dew, 11-2 Chourmo, Brassavola, 13-2 Shaheen Saqaar, 7 Night Breeze, 12 Jenson Benson, 16 River Alwen, Mildyjama, 20 Moab.

5.20 HALLGARTEN & NOVUM WINES H'CAP £6,281 (4) 1m (13)
1 (10) 334 BILLY MILL (39) (D,T) B Millman 6 9 10..........F Marsh
2 (9) L7L ASSESSMENT (12) (D) A Watson 5 9 9 Laura Coughlan(3)
3 (12) 121 NOODLE MISSION (32) (F) E Smyth-Osbourne 4 9 9 D Muscutt
4 (3) 0-89 RESTRICT (139) D M Simcock 4 9 8..........J Haynes
5 (6) 890 BASS PLAYER (34) K Frost 5 9 8..........A Pinna(7)
6 (13) 7-L0 RASCALLION (61) Mrs S Leech 5 9 7........Mia Nichiolls(5)
7 (1) 22-3 RUNNING STAR (27) H Palmer 4 9 6..........J Hart
8 (4) L74 ROYAL PARADE (13) G Kelleway 5 9 5..........J Peate(3)
9 (8) 30-7 ● VALKYRIAN (17) (D) J Osborne 4 9 5......W Carver(3)
10 (7) 6L-1 HEY LYLA (14) (C&D,T) C Johnston 4 9 5........J Mitchell
11 (2) 233 BOASTY (28) (C,D) I Furtado 7 9 2..........K O'Neill
12 (5) 516 BORA BORA (16) J Butler 6 8 12..........R Dawson
13 (11) 11/P BOLD SUITOR (19) (C&D) Craig Benton 7 8 10 Rhiain Ingram(3)

BLINKERS: No. 13 VISOR: No. 11 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 5, 13 CHEEK PIECES: No. 7 HOOD: No. 2.
W-Factor: Restrict (91); Valkyrian (89); Bass Player (88).
SP FORECAST: 3 Noodle Mission, 9-2 Hey Lyla, 5 Running Star, 13-2 Valkyrian, 7 Boasty, 10 Billy Mill, 12 Restrict, 16 Bora Bora, 20 Others.

TRACK FACTS: GOING: Standard. Left Handed. **TOP TRACK JOCKEY (2019-24):** Jack Mitchell 17% Strike rate. **TOP TRACK TRAINER (2019-24):** M Appleby 12% Strike rate. **FIRST TIME:** 4.10 Sniper's Eye (hood), Roxanne (hood), 4.50 River Alwen (blinkers), Mildyjama (blinkers). **BEATEN FAVOURITES:** 2.50 Rocking Ends(hcp). 3.30 Ehtiram. 4.50 Brassavola(hcp), Night Breeze(hcp). 5.20 Running Star(hcp). **DRAW:** Little effect. **LONGEST TRAVELLER: Billy Mill** (5.20) 241 miles. **STABLE SWITCH:** 4.50 **River Alwen** from R Hannon to Craig Benton.

HOOF PRINT

★ HARRY CHARLTON is excited to have major shot at claiming Royal Ascot glory with King's Gambit in today's Hampton Court Stakes.

The 37-year-old is in his first season since taking over the licence at the historic Beckhampton Stables from his father Roger, and he has a potential gem in King's Gambit, who the London Gold Cup into a procession at Newbury last month. "We're very happy with him, we've had some lovely weather for him to do some nice work on our grass gallops, he's in great shape," said the trainer.

"It would be lovely to have a winner at Royal Ascot. Thesis did for us in our first year with a joint-licence and obviously it would be nice to try to do it on my own as well."

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

ROYAL ASCOT: Good to firm

2.30—LEOVANNI (James Doyle, 22-1) 1; Mighty Eriu (50-1) 2; Maw Lam (50-1) 3; Miss Lamai (22-1) 4. 24 ran. 1¾l, nk, nk. (K R Burke; 7-2 fav Kassaya). Tote: £24.30; pl £5.35, £12.45, £5.30, £5.20. exacta: £1308.20. tricast: £42168.60. trifecta: £22261.40. CSF: £836.92. Non-runners: Glorious Kitty, Kuwaitya.

3.05—ILLINOIS (R L Moore, 7-4 fav) 1; Highbury (3-1 2nd fav) 2; Birdman (13-2) 3. 11 ran. 1¼l, ¾l. (A P O'Brien (IRE)). Tote: £2.75; pl £1.25, £1.45, £1.95. exacta: £9.30. tricast: £26.43. trifecta: £31.70. CSF: £6.46. Non-runner: Grosvenor Square.

3.45—RUNNING LION (O Murphy, 6-1) 1; Laurel (4-1 2nd fav) 2; Doom (12-1) 3. 14 ran. 2l, 2l. (J & T Gosden; 10-3 fav Rogue Millennium). Tote: £7.00; pl £2.60, £2.25, £4.25. exacta: £45.70. tricast: £286.55. trifecta: £417.90. CSF: £27.37.

4.25—AUGUSTE RODIN (R L Moore, 13-8 fav) 1; Zarakem (33-1) 2; Horizon Dore (7-1) 3. 10 ran. ¾l, 1l. (A P O'Brien (IRE)). Tote: £2.63; pl £1.35, £7.45, £1.95. exacta: £58.10. tricast: £269.76. trifecta: £262.40. CSF: £60.03.

5.05—WILD TIGER (O Murphy, 11-2 jt fav) 1; Sonny Liston (17-2) 2; Perotto (25-1) 3; Daysofourlives (20-1) 4. H'cap 29 ran. hd, ¾l, ½l. (S bin Suroor; 11-2 jtfav Crack Shot). Tote: £7.40; pl £2.40, £3.35, £5.75, £5.60. exacta: £75.80. tricast: £1155.16. trifecta: £2043.50. CSF: £42.06. Non-runners: Imperial Fighter, Silent Film.

5.40—DOHA (H Crouch, 10-1) 1; Hopeful (13-2 fav) 2; Victoria Falls (20-1) 3; Rowayeh (10-1) 4. H'cap 24 ran. hd, 4¼l, hd. (R Beckett). Tote: £11.70; pl £3.65, £2.45, £5.80, £3.75. exacta: £115.60. tricast: £1345.58. trifecta: £1963.60. CSF: £66.64. Non-runner: Vetiver.

6.15—AIN'T NOBODY (J P Spencer, 5-1) 1; Gabaldon (16-1) 2; Aviation Time (28-1) 3; Weissmuller (100-1) 4. 27 ran. 1l, ½l, 1½l. (K Ryan; 4-1 fav Shadow Army). Tote: £6.40; pl £2.15, £2.65, £6.35, £20.20. exacta: £82.40. tricast: £2120.22. trifecta: £1631.90. CSF: £77.26. Non-runner: Jm Jhingree.

Jackpot: £30,106.00, with £15,354.08 carried over.
Placepot: £916.60
(Race 1) 12, 15, 14; (2) 4, 3, 1; (3) 13, 6, 3; (4) 2, 8, 4; (5) 20, 1, 8, 24; (6) 16, 18, 25, 13;
Quadpot: £35.00

HAMILTON: Good

1.45—TWOFORTHEGUTTER (Mark Winn, 11-10 fav) 1; The Navigator (7-2 2nd fav) 2; Crystal Guard (6-1) 3. H'cap 7 ran. nk, shd. (C Kellett). Tote: £2.10; pl £1.10, £2.00. exacta: £5.50. tricast: £13.22. trifecta: £15.60. CSF: £4.64. Non-runners: Reams Of Love, Trailblazer.

2.15—JUNGLE DRUMS (Oisin Orr, 15-8 2nd fav) 1; Joshuas Dream (25-1) 2; Georgecandoit (8-13 fav) 3. 5 ran. hd, nk. (K R Burke). Tote: £2.88; pl £1.20, £5.60. exacta: £30.60. trifecta: £41.40. CSF: £33.92.

2.50—SHAZANI (C Beasley, 17-2) 1; Pretty Thing (7-1) 2; Who Wants Me (28-1) 3. 8 ran. 1¾l, 1¾l. (C Johnston; 2-1 fav Gold Black). Tote: £9.60; pl £2.20, £2.00, £6.10. exacta: £82.10. trifecta: £1986.30. CSF: £67.18.

3.30—PURPLE GOWN (B Robinson, 18-1) 1; Spanish Hustle (11-8 fav) 2; Bohemian Breeze (13-2) 3. H'cap 7 ran. ns, 1¾l. (A Nicol). Tote: £21.70; pl £1.40, £6.90. exacta: £53.10. tricast: £187.93. trifecta: £197.70. CSF: £42.87. Non-runner: Flying Scotsman.

4.10—JAZZ SCENE (P Mulrennan, 7-4 fav) 1; Mysteryofthesands (5-2 2nd fav) 2; Finn Ironside (16-1) 3. H'cap 5 ran. ¾l, 1½l. (Sir M Prescott). Tote: £2.75; pl £1.60, £1.50. exacta: £6.10. trifecta: £36.60. CSF: £6.28.

4.50—ROSE BRANCH (P Mulrennan, 13-2) 1; Naturalia (9-4 fav) 2; Persian Phoenix (5-2 2nd fav) 3. H'cap 6 ran. ¾l, 3l. (H Palmer). Tote: £7.50; pl £3.30, £1.70. exacta: £23.20. trifecta: £81.60. CSF: £20.86. Non-runner: Takes Time.

5.25—HOT TEAM (Rhys Elliott, 10-3 fav) 1; Paco's Pride (15-2) 2; National Question (18-1) 3. H'cap 10 ran. 3¾l, ¾l. (P Morris). Tote: £4.34; pl £1.40, £2.40, £4.20. exacta: £20.90. tricast: £389.25. trifecta: £257.00. CSF: £28.17. Non-runner: Fanzone.

Placepot: £163.20
(Race 1) 1, 3; (2) 3, 4; (3) 3, 7, 8; (4) 6, 4; (5) 5, 2; (6) 5, 4;
Quadpot: £47.40

WORCESTER: Good

2.05—SOLID FUEL (J Best, 40-1) 1; Tonto Foley (5-2 fav) 2; Gambie Tiep (15-2) 3. H'cap 11 ran. 1¼l, 5l. (Joanne Thomason-Murphy). Tote: £45.90; pl £9.50, £1.50, £2.70. exacta: £222.70. tricast: £880.37. trifecta: £1449.10. CSF: £144.01.

2.40—BOB BOB RICARD (Jonjo O'Neill Jr, 6-1) 1; Duke Of Luckley (11-2) 2; Cape Vidal (9-2 fav) 3. H'cap 13 ran. 4l, 3½l. (Jonjo & A O'Neill). Tote: £7.00; pl £1.80, £2.70, £2.10. exacta: £39.40. tricast: £166.48. trifecta: £222.50. CSF: £39.31.

3.15—HOLOKEA (J Bowen, 11-2) 1; All Well And Good (13-2) 2; Elysian Knight (11-2) 3. 11 ran. ¾l, 3l. (P & M Bowen; 4-1 fav Patch Man). Tote: £6.50; pl £2.10, £2.10, £1.90. exacta: £35.60. trifecta: £158.70. CSF: £39.17. Non-runner: As Good As Can Be.

3.55—SEA PRINCE (K Woods, 28-1) 1; Forget The Way (3-1 2nd fav) 2; Hidalgo De L'isle (16-1) 3. H'cap 11 ran. shd, ½l. (A Hales; 11-4 fav Galata Bridge). Tote: £37.60; pl £6.80, £1.40, £3.60. exacta: £160.00. tricast: £1443.65. trifecta: £3056.20. CSF: £112.03. Non-runner: Fandabidozi.

4.35—SEEYOUINMYDREAMS (H Cobden, 1-4 fav) 1; Kintaro (16-1) 2; Double Oban (7-1 2nd fav) 3. 11 ran. 13l, nk. (P Nicholls). Tote: £1.25; pl £1.02, £2.20, £2.00. exacta: £6.30. trifecta: £22.50. CSF: £6.83. Non-runner: Frenelope.

5.15—MELTON MOSSY (A Wedge, 11-10 fav) 1; Ten Ten Twenty (11-1) 2; Gorcombe Moonshine (10-1) 3. H'cap 10 ran. 2l, 1½l. (E Williams). Tote: £2.10; pl £1.20, £3.10, £2.20. exacta: £17.40. tricast: £82.89. trifecta: £104.00. CSF: £14.16. Non-runner: Eloso.

5.50—HILLSIN (J Turner, 6-1) 1; Carnet De Stage (16-1) 2; Emanate (13-2) 3. H'cap 11 ran. ½l, 1l. (A Jones; 4-1 fav Jaxonne). Tote: £7.30; pl £2.50, £5.20, £2.10. exacta: £104.60. tricast: £653.29. trifecta: £1144.10. CSF: £97.01. Non-runner: Voodoo Doll.

Placepot: £41.60
(Race 1) 10, 6, 4; (2) 3, 12, 9; (3) 2, 4, 1; (4) 6, 7, 1; (5) 6, 10, 9; (6) 5, 10, 11;
Quadpot: £13.40

NOTTINGHAM: Good to soft-good in places

5.45—COUNTESS CIARA (J Bryan, 9-2) 1; Koulikoro (18-1) 2; Hackney Diamonds (13-2) 3. 11 ran. nk, ½l. (A Watson; 10-3 fav Renewal). Tote: £5.50; pl £4.20, £2.10, £1.90. exacta: £88.60. trifecta: £512.60. CSF: £80.27. Non-runner: Standput.

6.20—DARK DREAMER (J Mitchell, 11-4 fav) 1; Ten Commitments (11-2) 2; Let's Get Em (17-2) 3. H'cap 7 ran. ½l, 2¾l. (R Cowell). Tote: £3.75; pl £1.80, £2.60. exacta: £12.30. tricast: £102.77. trifecta: £91.00. CSF: £16.66. Non-runners: Bandello, Want Want.

6.50—FAUSTUS (J Mitchell, 12-1) 1; Four Adaay (8-1) 2; Miss Brazen (14-1) 3. H'cap 10 ran. ¾l, ¾l. (R Cowell; 10-3 fav Angle Land). Tote: £13.00; pl £3.90, £2.40, £4.30. exacta: £119.00. tricast: £1365.89. trifecta: £1174.40. CSF: £104.19.

7.20—SISTERANDBROTHER (P Mathers, 11-2 2nd fav) 1; Laser Focus (6-4 fav) 2; Showy (7-1) 3. H'cap 10 ran. hd, 2l. (K Frost). Tote: £7.40; pl £1.80, £1.20, £2.20. exacta: £16.40. tricast: £59.53. trifecta: £86.90. CSF: £13.85. Non-runners: Bletchley Storm, Mc'ted, The Pug.

7.50—FORTNUM (P Cosgrave, 11-8 fav) 1; Lady Of Time (33-1) 2; Emerald City (6-1) 3. H'cap 8 ran. 1l, 2¼l. (G Boughey). Tote: £2.50; pl £1.40, £6.10, £1.60. exacta: £58.60. tricast: £217.26. trifecta: £326.90. CSF: £53.73. Non-runners: Daring Leader, Lincoln Royal, Pop Noodle.

8.20—ANDROMEDAS KINGDOM (S D Bowen, 7-2 2nd fav) 1; Astronomica (15-2) 2; Adelabella (10-3 fav) 3. H'cap 11 ran. ½l, 2l. (M Appleby). Tote: £4.50; pl £1.60, £2.60, £1.60. exacta: £38.50. tricast: £95.59. trifecta: £214.30. CSF: £29.48. Non-runner: Ballsbridge.

8.50—ROCK N ROLL PINKIE (M Ghiani, 18-5 fav) 1; Young Merlin (4-1 jt 2nd fav) 2; Highland Frolic (22-1) 3. H'cap 11 ran. 2¼l, ¾l. (I Furtado). Tote: £4.60; pl £1.70, £1.80, £5.90. exacta: £25.20. tricast: £275.81. trifecta: £326.60. CSF: £17.43. Non-runner: Roman Tempest.

Placepot: £165.20
(Race 1) 2, 5, 4; (2) 2, 6; (3) 5, 10, 2; (4) 8, 3, 6; (5) 1, 10, 2; (6) 5, 11, 8;
Quadpot: £31.80

RIPON: Soft-good to soft in places

6.00—BACOR (Grace McEntee, 6-1) 1; She Went Whoosh (5-1 2nd fav) 2; Party Bear (13-2) 3. 7 ran. 2½l, 1l. (G Boughey; 11-8 fav Coeur Jaune). Tote: £7.00; pl £2.60, £2.30. exacta: £27.80. trifecta: £110.70. CSF: £33.77.

6.35—FLOWSTATE (D Nolan, 18-1) 1; Fox Spirit (11-1) 2; Canon's House (18-1) 3. 12 ran. 2¼l, 1½l. (D O'Meara; 13-8 fav Idle Assembly). Tote: £22.20; pl £3.30, £2.80, £5.40. exacta: £209.80. trifecta: £4713.50. CSF: £205.46. Non-runner: Maris Angel.

7.05—KARDIA (C Rodriguez, evens fav) 1; Genesius (2-1 2nd fav) 2; Yurinov (15-2) 3. H'cap 4 ran. 2l, 4¼l. (E Bethell). Tote: £2.00; exacta: £3.00. trifecta: £7.40. CSF: £3.17.

7.35—BATAL ZABEEL (S Gray, 10-1) 1; The Good Biscuit (5-2 fav) 2; Moyola (4-1 2nd fav) 3. H'cap 8 ran. hd, 1¾l. (K Ryan). Tote: £11.00; pl £2.50, £1.50, £1.50. exacta: £36.40. tricast: £117.66. trifecta: £180.50. CSF: £34.17.

8.05—DANCINGWITHMYSELF (C Rodriguez, 11-2) 1; Ribkana (20-1) 2; Organic (6-5 fav) 3. H'cap 8 ran. 2¼l, 2¾l. (M Bell). Tote: £6.50; pl £1.70, £4.00, £1.10. exacta: £105.90. tricast: £213.38. trifecta: £240.40. CSF: £100.37.

8.35—DUNNINGTON LAD (H Shaw, 33-1) 1; Protest Rally (6-1) 2; Foreseeable Future (10-3 fav) 3. Golden Gal (20-1) 3. H'cap 10 ran. ½l, ¾l, dht. (P Winks). Tote: Dunnington Lad £35.60; pl Dunnington Lad £8.40, Protest Rally £1.80, Golden Gal £2.20. exacta: Dunnington Lad, Protest Rally £265.70. tricast: Dunnington Lad, Protest Rally, Foreseeable Future £350.83, Dunnington Lad, Protest Rally, Golden Gal £2071.83. trifecta: Dunnington Lad, Protest Rally, Foreseeable Future £640.00, Dunnington Lad, Protest Rally, Golden Gal £2438.60. CSF: Dunnington Lad, Protest Rally £219.05. Non-runner: Prospect.

Placepot: £525.60
(Race 1) 1, 7; (2) 4, 6, 2; (3) 1; (4) 2, 1, 5; (5) 5, 8, 3; (6) 5, 1, 7.
Quadpot: £6.60

WOLVERHAMPTON SSR

THE SCOUT
5.28 Divine Presence
6.00 Mooeeaz
6.35 Synthesize
7.10 Flying Panther
7.40 Muttasil
8.10 Between Me And U
8.40 Wakai Umi

5.28 FILLIES' HANDICAP 3YO £3,716 (Cl 5)1m 4f 51yds (5 declared)

1 (1) 21L **LOVE YOU DARLING (11)** B Brookhouse 9 10 ....**S D Bowen(5)**
2 (4) 4-42 ● **DIVINE PRESENCE (27)** J & T Gosden 9 9..**T Heard(3)**
3 (3) 551 **PIQUE' (24) (D)** J Fanshawe 9 7....**R Coakley**
4 (5) 55-L **ALMUDENA (13)** Sir M Prescott 9 4....**L Morris**
5 (2) 51- **TIPTOE (238) (C)** D M Simcock 9 3....**C Fallon**

CHEEK PIECES: No. 4 HOOD: No. 3.
W-Factor: Pique' (81); Love You Darling (80); Divine Presence (78).
SP FORECAST: 5-2 Divine Presence, 3 Pique', Love You Darling, 5 Almudena, 11-2 Tiptoe.

6.00 RACEDAY-READY.COM NOVICE STAKES 2YO £3,402 (5) 7f 36yds (7)

1 (2) 54 **BRINDAVAN (22) (F)** S Woods 9 7....**Dylan Hogan**
2 (1) 5 **CAVALLO BAY (22)** C Appleby 9 7....**D Costello**
3 (3) **CORPUS JURIS** C Johnston 9 7....**A Mullen**
4 (6) L7 **LAZIEELUNCH (24)** S Woods 9 7....**S D Bowen(5)**
5 (5) ● **MOOEEAZ** S & E Crisford 9 7....**R Coakley**
6 (7) L8 **PATROL (14)** W Haggas 9 7....**C Fallon**
7 (4) 3 **STUDIOUS (49)** M Loughnane 9 7....**L Morris**

CHEEK PIECES: No. 2.
W-Factor: Brindavan (78); Cavallo Bay (74); Patrol (70).
SP FORECAST: 9-4 Cavallo Bay, 11-4 Brindavan, 10-3 Mooeeaz, 11-2 Corpus Juris, 8 Patrol, 16 Studious, 50 Lazieelunch.

6.35 RESTRICTED MAIDEN STAKES £3,942 (5) 7f 36yds (12)

1 (5) 324 **THANKS DAD (30)** S Dixon 4 10 0....**T Heard(3)**
2 (12) 234- **KITTEN GLOVES (331)** I Mohammed 4 9 9 ....**R Kavanagh(7)**
3 (9) 7L **BARITUS BELLATOR (12)** D Cunha 3 9 7...**R Clutterbuck**
4 (7) 833 **HIGHLAND OLLY (12) (F)** G Tuer 3 9 7....**A Farragher**
5 (4) **PASEA GRANDE** H Kobeissi 3 9 7....**L Morris**
6 (8) **SUSTAINED** D & C Kubler 3 9 7....**Dylan Hogan**
7 (1) **HUNTERS RUN** R Hughes 3 9 5....**Ethan Jones(7)**
8 (10) **MAKEMINEAGUINNESS** W G M Turner 3 9 5....**L Keniry**
9 (3) L-35 **RESPECTABLE JACK (29)** M Crawley 3 9 5....**C Fallon**
10 (2) **EXPERT ELSA** D & C Kubler 3 9 0....**R Coakley**
11 (11) 2 **GAIETY MUSICAL (16)** P Evans 3 9 0....**S D Bowen(5)**
12 (6) 3 ● **SYNTHESIZE (46) (F)** H Candy 3 9 0....**T Whelan**

TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 2, 3, 5 CHEEK PIECES: No. 2.
W-Factor: Gaiety Musical (76); Kitten Gloves (72); Thanks Dad (68).
SP FORECAST: 7-2 Kitten Gloves, 4 Synthesize, 9-2 Gaiety Musical, 6 Thanks Dad, 10 Respectable Jack, Hunters Run, 12 Highland Olly, Pasea Grande, 14 Others.

TRACK FACTS: GOING: Standard. Left Handed. **TOP TRACK JOCKEY (2019-24):** Luke Morris 12% Strike rate. **TOP TRACK TRAINER (2019-24):** M Loughnane 11% Strike rate. **FIRST TIME:** 5.28 Almudena (cheek pieces), 6.00 Cavallo Bay (cheek pieces), 6.35 Pasea Grande (tongue strap), 7.10 Rasmah (blinkers), 7.40 Royal Tapestry (visor). **BEATEN FAVOURITES:** 5.28 Almudena(hcp). 6.00 Cavallo Bay. 6.35 Kitten Gloves(hcp). 7.40 Muttasil(hcp), Royal Tapestry(hcp). **DRAW:** Little effect. **LONGEST TRAVELLER: Jaunty Dancer** (7.10) & **Comedian Leader** (8.40) 173 miles. **STABLE SWITCH:** No Qualifiers.

7.10 RACEDAY-READY CLASSIFIED STAKES £3,078 (6)1m 1f 104yds (11)

1 (2) 226 **EVA ROSIE (19)** Mrs Stella Barclay 4 9 11....**A Jary(5)**
2 (5) 943 ● **FLYING PANTHER (38)** James Owen 4 9 11 ....**S D Bowen(5)**
3 (10) 554- **IMPRINT (324)** M Rimell 5 9 11....**R Clutterbuck**
4 (8) L37 **INEXPLICABLE (38) (C&D,F)** A Brittain 7 9 11....**C Hardie**
5 (7) 47-6 **TRACKMAN (24)** S Pearce 4 9 11....**T Heard(3)**
6 (1) LL0 **DISQUIETUDE (15)** J Butler 3 9 0....**A Mullen**
7 (4) 5LL **JAUNTY DANCER (51)** C Dunnett 3 9 0....**C Howarth(3)**
8 (9) 220 **LIGHTNING BAY (51)** J Butler 3 9 0....**A Farragher**
9 (3) 6L7 **RASMAH (16) (F)** A Watson 3 9 0....**L Morris**
10 (11) 8L5 **SUBALTERN (16)** Miss A Murphy 3 9 0....**Dylan Hogan**
11 (6) 8-03 **THEY (21) (F)** G Boughey 3 9 0....**Grace McEntee(3)**

BLINKERS: Nos. 1, 9 VISOR: Nos. 4, 7 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 2, 4, 8, 10 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 2, 8, 10, 11 HOOD: No. 2.
W-Factor: Flying Panther (58); Inexplicable (57); Eva Rosie (56).
SP FORECAST: 4 They, 9-2 Flying Panther, 5 Eva Rosie, 13-2 Inexplicable, 8 Lightning Bay, Imprint, 10 Rasmah, 12 Trackman, 14 Others.

7.40 HANDICAP (DIV 1) 3YO £3,716 (5) 1m 142yds (9)

1 (8) 4-LL **ROYAL TAPESTRY (49)** C Johnston 9 11....**A Mullen**
2 (9) 560 **LUAS (34)** K P De Foy 9 8....**R Coakley**
3 (2) 454 ● **MUTTASIL (15)** Harry Eustace 9 8....**C Fallon**
4 (3) 400 **NIGHT LARK (15)** R Beckett 9 7....**R Clutterbuck**
5 (4) 1-76 **PALAZZO PERSICO (12)** E Dunlop 9 7....**L Morris**
6 (6) L58 **CLAXTON BAY (10)** R Hannon 9 5....**T Greatrex**
7 (5) 91-0 **CADOGAN GARDENS (38) (C&D)** C Hills 9 5....**W Cox**
8 (1) LLL **RICH HARRY (4)** Alice Haynes 9 4....**Doubtful**
9 (7) 286 **GARDEN VIEW (14)** M Usher 8 10....**T Heard(3)**

VISOR: No. 1 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 6, 8.
W-Factor: Garden View (77); Muttasil (76); Luas (75).
SP FORECAST: 2 Muttasil, 6 Royal Tapestry, Palazzo Persico, 13-2 Night Lark, Luas, 7 Garden View, 10 Claxton Bay, 14 Cadogan Gardens.

8.10 HANDICAP (DIV 2) 3YO £3,716 (5) 1m 142yds (9)

1 (9) L-86 **TREASURE STORM (26)** D F Davis 9 10....**O Lewis(7)**
2 (5) 174 **NIGHT OF DESIRE (14)** M Botti 9 8....**S D Bowen(5)**
3 (2) 942 **SUGARLOAF LENNY (7)** W Knight 9 8....**L Morris**
4 (6) 9L6 ● **BETWEEN ME AND U (27)** Alice Haynes 9 7 ....**A Farragher**
5 (7) L22 **BAROQUE BUOY (29)** G Scott 9 6....**Liam Wright(5)**
6 (8) 6L4 **MISS IDUNN (9)** R Hannon 9 5....**L Keniry**
7 (3) 124 **THEWORLDSNOTENOUGH (20)** T Ward 9 4....**T Whelan**
8 (1) 003 **MADE ALL (41) (F)** A Brittain 9 3....**C Hardie**
9 (4) LL-7 **SOVERAINE (14)** C Johnston 8 13....**A Mullen**

CHEEK PIECES: No. 4.
W-Factor: Theworldsnotenough (78); Sugarloaf Lenny (76); Baroque Buoy (75).
SP FORECAST: 9-4 Sugarloaf Lenny, 7-2 Baroque Buoy, 6 Made All, 13-2 Between Me And U, 8 Theworldsnotenough, 10 Night Of Desire, Miss Idunn, 20 Soveraine, Treasure Storm.

8.40 RACEDAY READY HANDICAP £2,983 (6) 5f 21yds (9)

1 (1) 636 ● **WAKAI UMI (7) (C&D)** M Loughnane 4 9 10.**R Coakley**
2 (7) 671 **LADY NAGIN (28) (D)** A West 4 9 8....**T Whelan**
3 (4) 647 **COMEDIAN LEADER (23)** J & S Best 4 9 3....**L Keniry**
4 (3) 9-68 **MORE THAN LIKELY (27)** Mrs N Evans 8 9 2 ....**S D Bowen(5)**
5 (2) 482 **USTATH (16) (C&D,F)** R Fell & S Murray 8 8 12....**C Fallon**
6 (6) 34L **NEXT SECOND (13) (C&D)** R Carr 5 8 12....**L Morris**
7 (9) 797 **JOSIES KID (7) (C&D)** Alice Haynes 5 8 12..**C Howarth(3)**
8 (5) 326 **ANOTHER ANGEL (58) (C,D)** A Brittain 10 8 12...**C Hardie**
9 (8) 458 **MUTABAAHY (16) (C&D)** A Brittain **9 8 11**....**A Jary(5)**

VISOR: Nos. 8, 9 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 1, 4.
W-Factor: Another Angel (70); Next Second (69); Ustath (68).
SP FORECAST: 11-4 Lady Nagin, 10-3 Ustath, 5 Wakai Umi, 6 Josies Kid, 8 Next Second, 10 Another Angel, 12 Comedian Leader, 14 More Than Likely, 25 Mutabaahy.

LINGFIELD SSR

THE SCOUT
6.25 Dillydingdillydong
7.00 Alpen Power
7.30 Seagolazo
8.00 Alyara
8.30 Yantarni
9.00 Safari Dream

6.25 AMATEUR JOCKEYS' H'CAP (AWT) £2,831 (Class 6)1m 2f (11 declared)

1 (8) 2-9L **FEN TIGER (51)** J Feilden 6 11 2....**Mr R Birkett**
2 (7) L44 **BAKERSBOY (7) (C&D,F)** Alice Haynes 6 11 1 ....**Mr S Walker**
3 (11) 1L9 **WARRIOR SQUARE (28)** T Kent 5 10 13....**Mr L Kent(5)**
4 (5) 408 **CHICO DULCE (23)** M Madgwick 4 10 12 ....**Mr F Yarham(3)**
5 (6) 812 **STORMINGIN (63) (D) (S)** G & J Moore 11 10 11 ....**Mr Jude Fernandes(7)**
6 (10) 810 **FOREVER PROUD (19) (C&D)** M Hoad 4 10 10 ....**Mr Patrick Millman**
7 (3) 12-7 **MAGICAL DRAGON (49) (C&D)** P Chamings 7 10 9 ....**Mr F Tett**
8 (2) 0/L-L **MI SUENO (42)** P Butler 5 10 8....**Miss M Trainor(5)**
9 (1) 000 **INCLEMENT WEATHER (38)** A Hales 6 10 7 ....**Miss Poppy Scott(5)**
10 (4) 585 ● **DILLYDINGDILLYDONG (16)** James Owen **6 10 7** ....**Mr E Cagney**
11 (9) 6L-L **POPPYEQUIANO (17)** P Butler **5 10 7** ....**Miss Michelle Bryant(5)**

BLINKERS: No. 5 VISOR: Nos. 3, 7 TONGUE STRAP: No. 9 CHEEK PIECES: No. 2 HOOD: No. 11.
W-Factor: Chico Dulce (48); Stormingin (44); Fen Tiger (43).
SP FORECAST: 9-4 Bakersboy, 3 Stormingin, 11-2 Magical Dragon, 13-2 Dillydingdillydong, 12 Forever Proud, Fen Tiger, Chico Dulce, Warrior Square, 25 Others.

7.00 GET RACEDAY READY H'CAP (AWT) 3YO £3,716 (5) 1m 2f (8)

1 (7) 294 ● **ALPEN POWER (14) (F,T)** C Johnston 9 11 ....**Archie Young(7)**
2 (3) 2LL **ENDOSSER (23)** M Botti 9 10....**M Ghiani**
3 (6) 313 **WORRALS (30)** R Beckett 9 7....**Josephine Gordon**
4 (5) 4-42 **MIDNIGHT RUMBLE (26)** A King 9 6....**P-L Jamin**
5 (8) 3L1 **ROYAL PRAISE (14) (D)** E Dunlop 9 4....**P Cosgrave**
6 (1) 05-3 **BEAT THE CLOCK (159)** D M Simcock 9 3 ....**Georgia Dobie(3)**
7 (4) 2-8L **MOHAVE DANCER (41)** C Fellowes 9 2....**G Wood**
8 (2) 772 **SQUEAKER (81)** C Hobson 9 0....**L Catton(5)**

CHEEK PIECES: No. 7.
W-Factor: Midnight Rumble (84); Beat The Clock (83); Endosser (82).
SP FORECAST: 10-3 Midnight Rumble, 4 Beat The Clock, 5 Worrals, Royal Praise, 6 Alpen Power, 7 Squeaker, 10 Endosser, 20 Mohave Dancer.

7.30 RACEDAY-READY.COM NOVICE STAKES 2YO £3,402 (5) 6f (11)

1 (2) L **BADECO (22)** P McEntee 9 7....**Josephine Gordon**
2 (10) 0 **BENTLEY AIR (36)** R Hannon 9 7....**S Hitchcott**
3 (11) 9 **KON'NICHIWA (9)** B Meehan 9 7....**Olivia Tubb(7)**
4 (3) 45 **PIT BOSS (9)** G Boughey 9 7....**P-L Jamin**
5 (4) **ROGUE BULLET** Jack Jones 9 7....**Jack Doughty(5)**
6 (8) ● **SEAGOLAZO(T)** H Palmer 9 7....**C Hutchinson(3)**
7 (7) **SOLAR ARMY** R Teal 9 7....**G Downing**
8 (5) 5 **SPIRIT OF LEROS (40)** M Botti 9 7....**M Ghiani**
9 (6) L5 **TOLERANCE (16)** G Boughey 9 7....**P Cosgrave**
10 (1) L **DINKY DIVA (14)** P McEntee 9 2....**C Planas(3)**
11 (9) 06 **LEYHAIMUR (10)** D M Simcock 9 2....**Georgia Dobie(3)**

W-Factor: Pit Boss (75); Spirit Of Leros (74); Tolerance (73).
SP FORECAST: 5-2 Spirit Of Leros, 11-4 Pit Boss, 9-2 Seagolazo, 7 Rogue Bullet, 10 Tolerance, 12 Leyhaimur, 16 Solar Army, Bentley Air, 20 Others.

8.00 RACEDAY READY CLASSIFIED STAKES £2,983 (6) 7f (11)

1 (5) 851 **PORFIN (7) (D,F)** P McEntee 6 10 0....**C Planas(3)**
2 (3) 065 ● **ALYARA (12)** J & R Flint 6 9 9....**Taylor Fisher(3)**
3 (7) 443 **ESSME (12) (C&D)** R Cook & J Bridger 6 9 9....**W Carson**
4 (2) 79-3 **GILT EDGE (17) (C)** C Mason 8 9 9....**Gina Mangan(3)**
5 (8) 908 **MOORGATE (35) (F)** P G Murphy 5 9 9.**C Hutchinson(3)**
6 (9) 703 **RIVER WHARFE (13) (D)** A Carroll 6 9 9 ....**Jack Doughty(5)**
7 (6) 6-97 **RUN CMC (12)** P Chamings 4 9 9....**J Bryan**
8 (4) 140 **SCRAMBLE (51)** C Allen 4 9 9....**P-L Jamin**
9 (10) 967 **TOP BUTTON (16)** S C Williams 6 9 9....**M Ghiani**
10 (11) 4-9L **TWILIGHT KISS (19)** M Hoad 4 9 9....**S Hitchcott**
11 (1) 80L **YOU ARE MY WORLD (71)** A Carroll 5 9 9.**Molly Gunn(7)**

BLINKERS: No. 8 VISOR: Nos. 7, 11 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 3, 9 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 HOOD: No. 9.
W-Factor: Top Button (61); Scramble (60); Moorgate (59).
SP FORECAST: 11-4 Porfin, 4 Essme, 9-2 Gilt Edge, 7 Alyara, 8 Scramble, River Wharfe, 10 Top Button, 14 Run Cmc, 25 Others.

8.30 RACEDAY-READY.COM HANDICAP £4,972 (4) 7f (9)

1 (8) 503 **LOVE DE VEGA (19) (D,F,T)** C Johnston 5 10 2 ....**Archie Young(7)**
2 (5) 4-04 **MARLAY PARK (20) (D)** J Boyle 6 9 13....**P Cosgrave**
3 (6) L37 **HODLER (20) (D)** J Boyle 5 9 12....**L Catton(5)**
4 (2) 541 ● **YANTARNI (19) (C&D)** I Williams 5 9 9 ....**Josephine Gordon**
5 (4) L15 **SECRET BID (20) (C&D)** A Watson 3 9 7....**J Bryan**
6 (7) 41-0 **PILOTO PARDO (20) (D)** R Hannon 3 9 5....**S Hitchcott**
7 (9) 033 **SIR OLIVER (19) (D,F)** C Dwyer 7 9 4....**M Ghiani**
8 (3) 44-6 **FALCON NINE (23)** C Fellowes 4 9 3....**G Wood**
9 (1) 188 **SO QUIET (26) (D)** Harry Charlton 3 9 1....**P-L Jamin**

CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 4, 5, 7.
W-Factor: Sir Oliver (87); Love De Vega (86); Marlay Park (85).
SP FORECAST: 10-3 Yantarni, 7-2 So Quiet, 5 Marlay Park, Love De Vega, 7 Sir Oliver, 10 Secret Bid, 14 Hodler, 16 Piloto Pardo, Falcon Nine.

9.00 RACEDAY-READY.COM HANDICAP £3,716 (5) 4f 217yds (6)

1 (1) 741 **SPRING IS SPRUNG (10) (D,T)** P Midgley 5 9 9 ....**Archie Young(7)**
2 (5) 467- **JUST GLAMOROUS (248) (D)** C Mason 11 9 9 ....**Gina Mangan(3)**
3 (2) 955 **PARISIAC (13) (C,D,F)** Alice Haynes 5 9 7 ....**Anna Gibson(7)**
4 (6) 392 ● **SAFARI DREAM (10) (D)** B Millman 4 9 7....**G Downing**
5 (3) 235 **DARLO PRIDE (54) (D)** A Carson 4 9 5....**W Carson**
6 (4) 959 **AGOSTINO (10)** R Cowell 4 9 3....**M Ghiani**

VISOR: No. 5 TONGUE STRAP: No. 5 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 3, 4.
W-Factor: Spring Is Sprung (85); Safari Dream (84); Darlo Pride (83).
SP FORECAST: 7-4 Spring Is Sprung, 9-4 Safari Dream, 9-2 Parisiac, 8 Just Glamorous, 10 Darlo Pride, 14 Agostino.

HOOF PRINT

★ **JOHN GOSDEN felt tackling a stiff ten furlongs off a fast pace proved too much for Inspiral after she could only manage sixth place behind Auguste Rodin in the Prince Of Wales's Stakes.**

With the five-year-old mare claiming victory in the Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf over an extra two furlongs at Santa Anita in November, connections tried their luck at that trip again, but it backfired.

Gosden said: "She was pretty slowly away, sitting at the back of the field. They've gone very, very hard and I think, quite frankly, over the (stiff) mile and a quarter here, she's just been caught out for stamina."

TRACK FACTS: GOING: Standard. Left Handed. **TOP TRACK JOCKEY (2019-24):** William Carson 7% Strike rate. **TOP TRACK TRAINER (2019-24):** G & J Moore 15% Strike rate. **FIRST TIME:** 7.00 Mohave Dancer (cheek pieces), 8.00 You Are My World (visor), 8.30 Secret Bid (cheek pieces). **BEATEN FAVOURITES:** 7.00 Midnight Rumble(hcp). 8.00 Alyara(hcp). 9.00 Safari Dream(hcp). **DRAW:** Little effect. **LONGEST TRAVELLER: Alpen Power** (7.00) & **Love De Vega** (8.30) 270 miles. **STABLE SWITCH:** 7.00 **Squeaker** from M Botti to C Hobson.

FIT FOR A PRINCE Auguste Rodin repelled all challenges to win the Prince Of Wales's

Auguste proves a tough nut to crack

By **Melissa Jones**

AIDAN O'BRIEN created another masterpiece as Auguste Rodin silenced his Royal Ascot doubters in the Prince Of Wales's Stakes.

The all-or-nothing star had stunned fans with both his brilliance and occasional tendency not to put in a shift.

But as Berkshire bathed in sunshine, the 13-8 favourite worked hard to help O'Brien to a 400th Group One.

It was a significant result for Ryan Moore too, an 81st triumph putting him on a par with Frankie Dettori at the meeting.

O'Brien, right, was quick to shift blame for Auguste Rodin's no-shows – which included a last of 12 in the Dubai Sheema Classic – onto himself.

"The blips were my fault, the instructions were wrong and it was time to start getting it right," said O'Brien, who joined forces with Moore for Queen's Vase glory with Illinois.

"We changed everything. Ryan said he was going to ride him positive from now on and engage him straight away.

"He gave him a very special ride. Good horses, they have to develop a personality."

While main market threat Inspiral was hampered by a slow start, Moore was making Auguste Rodin's mind up.

Soon the winning post was in sight for the 2023 Derby hero and those tipped for future greatness as a stallion.

He was merely idling as French-trained Zarakem closed him down, with compatriot Horizon Dore making late gains for a bronze medal.

"He wanted to win, he's a proper horse," said Moore, leaping to the defence of his three-quarter length big-race hero.

"He's a Group One winner at two, he won four Group One's last year – people are always very quick to knock them. When I asked him, he really showed great courage."

Auguste Rodin's achievement was the latest in a line of comebacks for O'Brien and Moore, with City Of Troy also going from zero in the 2,000 Guineas to Derby hero.

The all-conquering trainer's upcoming task will be to separate his top horses, both in contention for a trip to the Breeders Cup Classic at Del Mar.

Next stop is Ascot's pivotal prize, the Gold Cup, with favourite Kyprios racing for Ballydoyle's ninth title – and a second for himself.

Whistlejacket is another hot favourite in the Norfolk Stakes – and bookmakers fear they could be on the ropes early.

"Ryan Moore's double on Illinois and Auguste Rodin helped push punters back into the lead," said William Hill's Lee Phelps.

"Whistlejacket and Kyprios are two strongly fancied favourites we'll hope to get beat on Thursday."

Suroor and Murphy join for a Tiger Hunt

By **Melissa Jones**

SAEED BIN SUROOR and Oisin Murphy were on the prowl for a Royal Hunt Cup victory with 11-2 joint favourite Wild Tiger.

The former champions of Flat racing reunited to crack one of Royal Ascot's toughest handicaps.

Despite the task on paper, three-time top rider Murphy oozed confidence and asked his Godolphin-owned mount to assert with a quarter of a mile still to run. A posse of contenders, led by the fast-finishing Sonny Liston (17-2), were soon snapping at their heels.

But to Murphy's relief he held on by a head, landing an animal-themed double after Running Lion's earlier success, with 25-1 chance Perotto, Daysofourlives (20-1) and Holloway Boy (22-1) filling the places.

Bin Suroor, who helped the rider open his royal account in 2017 with Benbatl, added win number 39 to a record which includes five Gold Cups and the 2000 Prince Of Wales's Stakes with Dubai Millennium.

"The numbers [in the yard] are now small; we just have 40 horses," said Bin Suroor. "I used to have 220.

"We have to do our best with what we have, but winning a race at Royal Ascot makes it easier."

Poised to chase back-to-back Gold Cups, Gregory's owners Wathnan Racing got one on the board in the Queen Mary Stakes, Leovanni (22-1) defying a significant market drift.

CHASED DOWN: Wild Tiger held on by a neck

WORLD OF SPORT

Proteas survive in a wild Gous chase

CRICKET

SOUTH AFRICA were almost dealt a shock defeat at the T20 World Cup, with the USA falling short in a brave Antigua run chase.

South Africa posted 194-4 in the Super Eights stage.

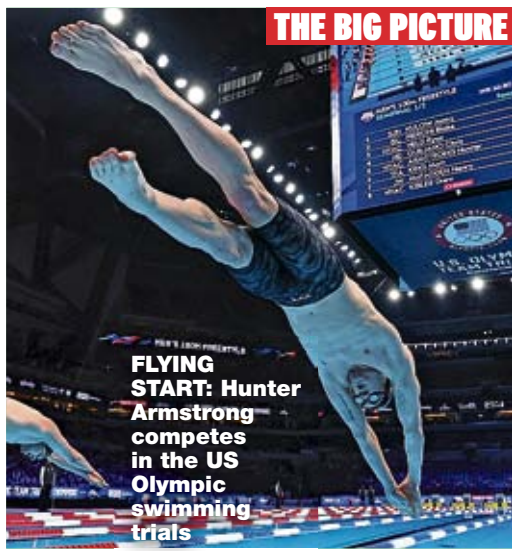
But the USA debutants ended up agonisingly short as Aiden Markram's side held on for an 18-run victory.

DE KOCK

Quinton de Kock did the damage with the bat for South Africa, hitting five sixes and seven fours in a 40-ball 74. Markram provided support with 46 off 32 deliveries while some late hitting from Heinrich Klaasen, who smacked three sixes in his 36, and Tristan Stubbs set an imposing target.

Opener Andries Gous was the linchpin of the USA reply.

He blasted an unbeaten 80 from 47 balls.

Gous struck five fours and five sixes as he threatened to take his country to a famous win.

THE BIG PICTURE

FLYING START: Hunter Armstrong competes in the US Olympic swimming trials

BASEBALL

WILLIE MAYS, the 'Say Hey Kid' whose over-the-shoulder catch in the World Series 70 years ago remains one of the most iconic moments in the sport, has died aged 93.

Twice named Major League Baseball's Most Valuable Player, the ex-San Francisco Giants star had been baseball's oldest living Hall of Famer. "He was a wonderfully warm and generous person – and an inspiration to an entire generation," said former US President Barack Obama.

When Mays returned from military service in 1954 to earn his first MVP award, his catch helped the Giants beat Cleveland 5-2 in the World Series.

San Francisco Mayor London Breed said: "He is the best there ever was."

MIKE WALTERS

1. Who were promoted to next season's Scottish Championship after beating Inverness Caledonian Thistle in the play-off final?

2. Which Warwickshire pair made 165 and 108 respectively in the first innings of the County Championship match with Essex at Chelmsford last month?

3. Which player won the 2024 Italian Open women's singles tennis tournament?

4. Which English rugby union team won the Heineken Cup in 2001 and 2002?

5. Which British boxer beat Duke McKenzie to claim his IBF flyweight title in 1989?

6. Which Italian won the men's marathon at the 2004 Olympics?

7. Which was the first snooker player from outside the British Isles to win the UK Championship?

8. Who rode New Approach to victory in the 2008 Derby?

9. Which international yachting event began in 1957 and was last held in 2003?

10. Which American golfer won The Open at Royal Troon in 1997?

10 to tackle

RATINGS
0-3 Oh dear
4-6 Small beer
7-9 So near
10 Sporting Seer

ANSWERS: 1 Hamilton Academical. 2 Ed Barnard and Michael Burgess. 3. Iga Swiatek. 4 Leicester Tigers. 5 Dave McAuley. 6 Stefano Baldini. 7 Ding Junhui. 8 Kevin Manning. 9 Admiral's Cup. 10 Justin Leonard.

RIVALS FEAR MAX WILL GET BACK ON TRACK

Reigning champion expected to resume his dominance in Spain

By **Daniel Moxon**

MAX VERSTAPPEN'S rivals fear Red Bull could be too strong for them on a traditional racing circuit at this weekend's Spanish Grand Prix.

Verstappen started the season in dominant form but McLaren and Ferrari have each won one of the past four races, while Mercedes joined the fight at the front last time out in Montreal.

But after a flurry of street tracks, Formula One returns to more traditional circuits for the next few rounds, including Sunday's race in Barcelona, where Red Bull are expected to be stronger after struggling on bumps and kerbs.

McLaren's Oscar Piastri believes his team will "be in the fight", but backed world champion Verstappen to flex his muscles on a track with a mix of cornering speeds.

The Australian said: "We can still be confident.

"I wouldn't say we're weak in high speed [corners], it's just that others probably caught up a bit.

"I'm comfortable we'll be somewhere towards the front. Red Bull will probably be a bit stronger than they have been but we'll be in the fight."

Ferrari's Charles Leclerc said: "I feel like the strength of Red Bull will be more visible on a track like Barcelona. And behind, we'll all be pretty close." Mercedes had to watch with envy earlier this year as their rivals took the battle to Red Bull.

But in Canada George Russell qualified on pole and finished third, while Lewis Hamilton followed him home in fourth as the Silver Arrows' car upgrades did the business.

Mercedes team principal Toto Wolff said: "We have continued to make incremental gains across the past few races.

"To see that translate into our strongest team result of the season so far is a reward for everyone's hard work. However, Barcelona will provide a good test of our progress.

"It has a mix of fast, medium and low-speed corners, a long straight, and plenty of elevation change. Tracks that contain this wide speed range have been a weakness of ours so far this year."

Red Bull's dominance in recent seasons has been blamed for Silverstone's struggle to sell out tickets for next month's British Grand Prix.

There are still tickets available, just two weeks ahead of the event.

Silverstone managing director Stuart Pringle admitted price rises are a factor but said: "If there is a strong likelihood of the same winner, it does take the edge off it."

FRONT MAN... Verstappen, above, leads the field on his way to winning last year's race in Spain

Smith defiant after getting sack at Leeds

SMITH: Paid the price

RUGBY LEAGUE

ROHAN SMITH believes he was on the right path despite getting axed by Leeds last night.

Eight-time Super League champions Rhinos said they agreed by mutual consent that their head coach would step down.

On the back of Saturday's 18-10 defeat by battling Hull, the exit seemed inevitable. Seventh-placed Leeds will celebrate the life of Rob Burrow when they host Leigh tomorrow, and they could not risk that occasion being spoiled by tensions over the head coach.

Salford's Paul Rowley, ex-Parramatta chief Brad Arthur and Brisbane assistant coach Lee Briers are all likely to come into the frame.

Smith, who had steered Rhinos to the Super League Grand Final in his first year after joining in April 2022, said: "I'd always stated it was a long-term project and I believe we have assembled a roster that can continue to push for a 2024 play-off spot."

Coaches Chev Walker and Scott Grix will be in temporary charge.

They have Wigan forward Sam Eseh on loan after Rhinos had four players unavailable to face Leigh due to concussion protocols.

DAVE CRAVEN

From **Adam Hathaway** in Tokyo

CENTRE WAS TEMPTED BY FRENCH MOVE BUT ENGLAND COMES FIRST

Slade almost called it quits after World Cup snub

HENRY SLADE revealed unfinished business with England was part of his decision to turn down a move to France.

The centre, who will win his 63rd cap against Japan on Saturday, signed a new deal with Exeter in May, keeping him in the Premiership and eligible for England selection.

But Slade admits his head was nearly turned by offers from Top 14 clubs, especially after he was left out of the World Cup squad by Steve Borthwick.

He fought back to start all five games in the Six Nations and this weekend is one of England's vice-captains in Tokyo.

Despite two Six Nations triumphs and appearances in the 2015 and 2019 World Cups, Slade is still not fulfilled with his Test career.

That was part of his motivation to knock back advances to join former Chiefs team-mates, such as Jack Nowell and Sam and Joe Simmonds, across the Channel.

The 31-year-old Slade said: "There was some interest and at the start when I didn't go to the World Cup I was quite open to it.

"I want to play for England. It's fantastic to be able to play for your country so that was definitely a big factor that allowed me to stay. But I'd be lying if I said I wasn't tempted.

"I've had a great career for England and been part of some really great squads, and had some great experiences, lifelong memories and made some great mates. But overall there is probably a little bit of frustration in terms of sometimes how we have played, and how I've played, and how many opportunities I've had to get on the ball, for example.

"Now I can put myself in the game a lot more and feel a lot more excited coming into camp."

> 'It added to my desire to get back'

Slade's World Cup omission was a massive call by Borthwick and a bolt from the blue.

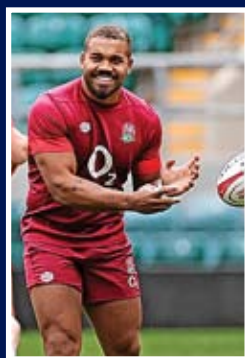
But he knuckled down at Chiefs and finished the season as Premiership Player of the Season.

Slade added: "Looking back it definitely added to my motivation and my desire to get back in and move forward with my game. You always want to be picked.

"I would have still wanted to go to the World Cup but that is in the past, it is gone.

"I have used it in a positive way to get myself back here and on this tour.

"People say things happen for a reason – I don't know if that is true or not. But I did revisit myself as a player and as a person after last summer and I feel I have come out of the other side of it a bit better."

A TEAM LEADER Slade will be an England vice-captain in Tokyo after making his return to the side

OLLIE TALKS A GOOD GAME TO MAKE MARC

CHATTER: Lawrence

From **Adam Hathaway**

OLLIE LAWRENCE has been in Marcus Smith's ear as England try to bed in their new midfield combination on tour.

The Bath centre, fly-half Smith and Exeter's Henry Slade have started only two Test matches together and are frantically trying to get up to speed for the summer campaign. The trio started a 43-29 win over USA in 2021, when Lawrence lasted only 35 minutes, and the 53-10 hammering by France last year.

They have been handed the chance to set the midfield in stone for a while, starting with the Japan clash on Saturday, and Lawrence, 24, says it is good to talk.

He said: "You have to get on board with it as quickly as possible.

"As training is going on I chat to Marcus saying, 'Do you want me deeper or do you want me tighter?' It is based on feel. Having that communication makes a massive difference. We know how good he is on the ball, putting people into gaps and taking on defenders himself. That will ignite the game for us."

Outside centre Slade added: "Marcus likes to take the ball, have a little go, so sometimes you've got to be in different starting positions for when you get the ball."

DAMP SQUIB: No fairy-tale ending for Brownlee

Jonny left gutted after missing the cut for Olympics

TRIATHLON
By **Mike Walters**

JONNY BROWNLEE struggled to contain his disappointment after being left out of Team GB's triathlon squad for the Paris Olympics.

He said: "It's not the fairy-tale ending I wanted."

Brownlee's omission marks the end of an era in British athletics, after a brotherhood's domination of swim-bike-run races for more than a decade.

Between them, Jonny and older brother Alistair have won three gold medals, one silver and one bronze at the Games since 2012, cleaning up with a family one-two in Rio eight years ago.

After Alistair won back-to-back Olympic titles in the men's elite race, Jonny finally struck gold with a superb run in the mixed relay team in Tokyo.

That performance prompted him to reverse his decision to retire from the Olympic format – and he resolved to make an encore next month.

But he was pipped to the second spot in the men's race, alongside Tokyo silver medallist Alex Yee, by 26-year-old Sam Dickinson, above.

Posting on Instagram, the 34-year-old Jonny Brownlee said: "The Tokyo mixed team relay was one of the many highlights of my career – and I still believe I could have helped Team GB win another medal in Paris. I will be supporting the team in whatever way I can and really hope they go on to defend the title.

"I have achieved more than I could ever have imagined in my Olympic career.

"After 99 world triathlon starts, 52 podiums and three Olympic medals, it's not the fairy-tale ending I'd wished for.

"But Paris was always a bonus and it can be the unwritten chapter of an incredible book."

British Triathlon performance director Mike Cavendish said: "There's no doubt that, had we decided to pick Jonny, he would have still done a brilliant job.

"We're just faced with having to make some really difficult decisions.

"He was disappointed. You would not expect anything different from an athlete of his calibre."

A strong women's team are led by reigning world champion Beth Potter while Georgia Taylor-Brown, who won silver in the deferred Tokyo Games three years ago, has recovered from injury to earn her place in Paris.

A reward for Tiger

TIGER WOODS has been granted a lifetime exemption to compete in the PGA Tour's eight 'signature' events.

The honour is in recognition of the 48-year-old American's joint record 82 wins on the circuit – and his 15 Major titles.

The Tour said it would "introduce a sponsor exemption for lifetime achievement – 80 or more career victories – to recognise Tiger Woods in his own category".

Signature events are eight of the Tour's most lucrative tournaments.

SPORT IN BRIEF

European Ch'ships

Group A

GERMANY (1) .... 2 HUNGARY (0) 0
Musiala 22, Gundogan 67. **Att: 54,000**

SCOTLAND (1) .... 1 SWITZERLAND (1) 1
McTominay 13; Shaqiri 26

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Germany	2	2	0	0	7	1	6
Switzerland	2	1	1	0	4	2	4
Scotland	2	0	1	1	2	6	1
Hungary	2	0	0	2	1	5	0

Group B

CROATIA (0).......... 2 ALBANIA (1)......... 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Italy	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Albania	2	0	1	1	3	4	1
Croatia	2	0	1	1	2	5	1

CRICKET

ICC WORLD TWENTY20 SUPER 8S - GROUP 2—USA v South Africa (North Sound): South Africa 194-4 (20 overs; Q de Kock 74, A Markram 46, H Klaasen 36no); USA 176-6 (20 overs; A Gous 80no, H Singh 38; K Rabada 3-18). **South Africa (2pts) bt USA by 18 runs.**

TENNIS

ATP Cinch Championships (The Queen's Club, London)**—2nd rd**: R Hijikata (Aus) bt M Arnaldi (Ita) 7-6 (7-0) 7-6 (9-7) S Korda (USA) bt G Dimitrov (Bul) 6-4 3-6 7-5; J Thompson (Aus) bt A Murray (Gbr) 4-1 ret, T Fritz (USA) bt M Raonic (Can) 7-6 (7-5) 6-4.

Rothesay Classic (Birmingham, England)**—2nd rd**: A Tomljanovic (Aus) bt L Zhu (Chn) 6-7 (6-8) 6-1 6-4; E Cocciaretto (Ita) bt S Stephens (USA) 6-4 6-2; L Fernandez (Can) bt V Golubic (Swi) 4-6 7-5 6-3, A Potapova (Rus) bt L Bronzetti (Ita) 6-3 7-5.

WTA ecotrans Ladies Open (Berlin, Germany)**—1st rd**: O Jabeur (Tun) bt X Wang (Chn) 6-4 7-6 (7-4) 2nd rd: V Azarenka (Blr) bt Z Sonmez Turkiye 6-3 6-3.

ATP Terra Wortmann Open (Halle, Germany)**—1st rd:** J Struff (Ger) bt L Darderi (Ita) 6-7 (2-7) 7-5 7-6~(12-10) M Berrettini (Ita) bt A Michelsen (USA) 7-6 (7-5) 6-2 2nd rd: A Fils (Fra) bt D Koepfer (Ger) 6-3 6-4; C Eubanks (USA) bt A Bublik (Kaz) 7-6 (7-5) 4-6 6-3; Z Zhang (Chn) bt D Medvedev (Rus) 6-3 2-6 7-6 (7-5), A Zverev (Ger) bt L Sonego (Ita) 6-4 7-6 (7-5).

TODAY'S DIARY

European Championships

Group B

Spain v Italy (8pm) (Live on ITV 1)

Group C

Denmark v England (5pm) (Live on BBC 1)

Slovenia v Serbia (2pm) (Live on ITV 1)

CRICKET

ICC World Twenty20 - Group 1: Afghanistan v India (Bridgetown, 3.30pm).

t20 Blast - North Group: Warwickshire v Northamptonshire (Edgbaston, 7pm), Yorkshire v Lancashire (Headingley, 7.15pm). **South Group:** Essex v Hampshire (Chelmsford, 7pm), Glamorgan v Gloucestershire (Sophia Gardens, 6.30pm), Middlesex v Surrey (Lord's, 7pm), Sussex v Kent (Hove, 7pm).

GOLF

DP World Tour KLM Open (The International, Amsterdam, Netherlands).

USPGA Tour Travelers Championship (TPC River Highlands, Cromwell, Connecticut).

LPGA KPMG Women's PGA Championship (Sahalee Country Club, Sammamish, Washington).

RUGBY LEAGUE

Betfred Super League (8pm)**:** Castleford v Hull K R.

Murray's last hurrah at Wimbledon is on the rocks after injury

PAIN GAME Murray receives treatment before pulling out at Queen's yesterday

REAL BODY BLOW

By **Neil McLeman**

ANDY MURRAY is a huge fitness doubt for his final Wimbledon after revealing he had "no coordination" before pulling out of the cinch Championships with a back injury.

Asked if he will be able to play at his home Grand Slam event, starting on July 1, the former world No.1 said: "I wouldn't know."

Murray won his first ATP Tour match since March in the first round on Tuesday but was back on Centre Court less than 24 hours later.

He lasted only 23 minutes against Australian Jordan Thompson before retiring with "neural pain" in his lower back.

It is the first time Murray, who had a metal hip fitted in 2019, has retired from a match since the 2013 Rome Masters.

"I have been struggling with my back for a while," he said.

"It was pretty sore in my match on Tuesday. I wasn't comfortable playing, but I was able to manage it. The first two balls I hit in the warm-up, my right leg, I had no coordination. I had a loss of power in my right leg. It was just not working properly. I couldn't move.

"I have dealt with back issues for a long time, for the past 10 years or so. But I have never had that loss of coordination, loss of control and strength in the leg before."

> 'I had a loss of power in right leg'

Murray had lower back disc surgery in September 2013 and has taken painkilling injections before playing on clay.

He had another "procedure" after Paris. Now he is in a race against time to get fit for Wimbledon, with a final farewell on the clay at the Paris Olympics looking a big risk.

Asked about his chances of playing Wimbledon, he said: "I wouldn't know. I don't know exactly what it [treatment] will be, because I don't know exactly what the problem is. The sort of treatment I had on my back after the French Open was predominantly left-sided. This was my right leg. I have never had too many issues with the right side. I will get scans tomorrow and get it rechecked and see if there's anything that can be done."

Murray won only eight points in the second-round match on Centre Court. He then returned to the court to an ovation.

"In hindsight, I wish I hadn't gone on there, because it was pretty awkward for everyone," he said.

World No.43 Thompson, who was leading 4-1 at the time, admitted he had to be ruthless.

"It's professional sport," he said. "It's nothing personal, just trying to get the job done."

British No.1 Jack Draper will play world No.2 Carlos Alcaraz today.

"It will just be a really, really good match with some really good tennis and, hopefully, we can compete really hard and put on a good show," said Draper.

"He has a huge pedigree. You know, he's setting records all over the place.

"He's an incredibly good, young player."

BATTLING: Murray feels the strain

Wild-card Emma handed route back to SW19

By **Neil McLeman**

EMMA RADUCANU and three Grand Slam tournament-winning mums have been awarded Wimbledon wild cards.

The 2021 US Open winner will return to SW19 for the first time in two years after missing the 2023 event following wrist and ankle surgeries.

Raducanu, left, one of 11 British players to be awarded wild cards, climbed back up to world No.165 after reaching the semi-finals of the Rothesay Open in Nottingham last week.

Grand Slam event champions Naomi Osaka and Caroline Wozniacki will both play Wimbledon for the first time since 2019 after becoming mothers.

Denmark's Wozniacki said: "I have so many special memories. There's something so special about playing on Wimbledon's Centre Court that you can't replicate anywhere else."

The 2018 Wimbledon champion Angelique Kerber will also return after missing last season to start a family.

This year's prize money is a record £50million, with first-round losers guaranteed to bank £60,000. British No.6 Billy Harris will make his Grand Slam event debut as a wild card. The 29-year-old is the first male player from the Isle of Man to compete in the singles in the Open era and achieved the best win of his career at Queen's on Tuesday against world No.32 Tomas Martin Etcheverry.

The other wild cards go to British players Fran Jones, Heather Watson, Lily Miyazaki, Liam Broady, Jan Choinski, Jacob Fearnley, Arthur Fery, Paul Jubb and last year's boys winner Henry Searle.

Slot inspired by Pep and Jurgen duel

ARNE: I'LL RELISH RIVALRY

By **David Anderson**

ARNE SLOT says he has succeeded Jurgen Klopp at Liverpool because he wants to be part of European football's biggest rivalry.

Slot believes his predecessor reset the agenda after the era of Real Madrid and Barcelona, claiming he was transfixed by Liverpool's titanic tussles with Manchester City.

He feels those battles defined not just English football but the European game in the nine years Klopp, below, managed at Anfield.

"I'm 45 now and I've been watching football for a long time," new head coach Slot told Liverpool's website in his first interview since taking over at the start of the month.

"This has been an era where everybody looked at the Barcelona side of Xavi, Iniesta and Messi and the rivalry there was between Real Madrid, with Cristiano Ronaldo being there.

"When that came to an end the new rivalry in European football came because of Jurgen.

"He managed Liverpool and Pep Guardiola, of course, managed Manchester City.

"For everyone who loves football it was a fantastic era to watch them getting the best out of each other.

"Jurgen's done a tremendous job and I'm really happy with that as a fan. But now as his successor he left Liverpool in the best possible way."

Slot rose to prominence at Feyenoord, winning the Dutch title in 2023 and the domestic cup last season.

The Dutchman was galvanised by the exploits of Klopp and Guardiola and feels their intense, possession-based attacking style is the only way to play football.

"We're all inspired by Guardiola and Klopp," he said.

"At a big club, which I worked in at Feyenoord as well, it's probably the only style you can play.

"To have the ball, to have a lot of energy. Now there are comparisons between the club I left and the club I'm going to work for.

"He [Klopp] has given me more than a few good tips.

"But what stood out for me was that he would be my biggest fan because he supports Liverpool in the best possible way.

"You don't see this very often – that says a lot about his character."

Slot is more than happy to be the club's first head coach, instead of manager.

He rejected Tottenham a year ago because he felt he had unfinished business at Feyenoord.

However, Slot explained that he could not turn Liverpool down.

"It was a year ago that I was in the interest of a few Premier League clubs," he said.

"But I decided to extend at Feyenoord with the idea of staying there two more seasons.

"After a year Liverpool came along and it wasn't a difficult choice to make."

RED GLOW: Slot's glad Klopp left Liverpool in the best shape

SLOVENIA V SERBIA
2PM, ITV

Former Saints star Tadic discovers he is no Dragan slayer

By Ryan Taylor

DUSAN TADIC is set to start against Slovenia after a public dispute with manager Dragan Stojkovic was resolved.

Tadic, who captains Serbia, came off the bench in Gelsenkirchen as his side slipped to a 1-0 defeat by England on Sunday.

After the match, the former Southampton star said: "I am the captain and leader, the best player of the team and I should be starting."

But the issue has now been resolved after the 35-year-old forward apologised to Stojkovic and his team-mates at their camp in Augsburg.

Stojkovic said: "There is nothing special about this story – maybe it's interesting for the media. But we are all moving on and it's an important match against Slovenia. I don't have anything else to say when it comes to that."

Tadic will be one of two changes to the line-up.

Juventus winger Filip Kostic has been ruled out of the tournament after damaging knee ligaments in a duel with England midfielder Trent Alexander-Arnold.

Slovenia's head coach Matjaz Kek is focused on ensuring his side perform from the start against Serbia, just as they did in the second half of Sunday's 1-1 draw with Denmark, when they had to come from behind.

He said: "We are thinking about how to keep a high tempo throughout the 90 minutes. After the match with Denmark I said I was thrilled about the intensity of the second half – but now we need more."

Kek is also feeling optimistic that there will be no trouble between the two sets of supporters, with both countries being a part of the former Yugoslavia.

He added: "The rivalry is big but Serbia is a very good opponent and we respect them.

"Despite what this means to both teams, a great atmosphere is what should be portrayed in the stands."

The head-to-head record is perfectly level. Serbia and Slovenia have won one match apiece while there have also been two draws in the countries' four meetings.

TADIC: Has apologised for complaining about being left out by Serbia

FOOTBALL LATEST

● ASTON VILLA are finalising a £35million swoop for Chelsea's Ian Maatsen. The Dutch defender, who was on loan at Borussia Dortmund last season, has had his release clause triggered by the Birmingham club.

● **EVERTON are interested in making a summer swoop for 20-year-old midfielder Tim Iroegbunam, who made 15 appearances under Aston Villa manager Unai Emery last season but only two starts.**

● LEEDS are prepared to let Jack Harrison rejoin Everton on loan if they agree to make the move permanent next summer. Meanwhile, Sheffield Wednesday have opened talks with Ian Poveda about signing the 24-year-old Colombia winger on a free transfer from Leeds.

● **BURNLEY have told Ajax to forget about trying to sign Wout Weghorst on the cheap.**

Foxes closing on Cooper

By **Neil Moxley**

STEVE COOPER is in advanced talks to become the manager of Leicester.

Foxes officials have spoken to the former Nottingham Forest head coach as they look for a successor to Enzo Maresca, who has joined Chelsea.

Cooper was considered third in the running behind Graham Potter and West Brom's Carlos Corberan.

Former Chelsea manager Potter was the favourite, as Leicester were due to pay seven-figure compensation had they plumped for one-time Marcelo Bielsa disciple Corberan instead.

But talks cooled with Potter and now Cooper, right, appears to be in the box seat.

The 44-year-old took over Forest when they were bottom of the Championship but led them to promotion and kept them in the Premier League during his first full season, before he was sacked last December.

Cooper was on holiday earlier this month and had not anticipated a call from Leicester.

He will have to upset the odds again if he takes over.

The Foxes are favourites for relegation as they face claims of breaching profit and sustainability rules.

'GET REAL' OVER JARRAD

MANCHESTER UNITED are confident they can wrap up a deal quickly for Jarrad Branthwaite – but only if Everton "get realistic" about their asking price.

United have offered £35million plus £8m in add-ons for Branthwaite after being told by the Toffees they want in the region of £70m for the 21-year-old centre-back, who only has one full Premier League season to his name.

United have stood firm on their original offer and have told Everton to adopt a more "realistic" stance, with regard to the player's true market value, if they want to do a deal.

DAVID McDONNELL

"People bang on about my age but it is just a number to me"

GOING STRONG: Walker at England's Euros HQ yesterday and, right, in action against Serbia last Sunday

SHAW IN WAITING GAME

LUKE SHAW may not be fit until the knockout stages of the Euros.

The England full-back, right, missed training ahead of the Denmark game today and may also be struggling to face Slovenia next Tuesday.

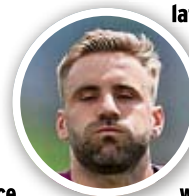
But Gareth Southgate insists that he has not had a setback and they were always prepared for him not to be ready until the latter stages.

England manager Southgate said: "Everybody bar Luke is available for the game and he is continuing with his own programme. That's why he didn't train with the rest. He will have rest days when they are training. That's just how that worked out.

"Luke is progressing as we thought he would.

"There was a moment last week where we thought he could be a couple of days ahead of schedule but, more realistically, we are looking to the back end of this week and early next."

JOHN CROSS

KYLE KEEN TO PROLONG INTERNATIONAL CAREER

From **Andy Dunn** in Frankfurt

CONSIDERING he had to be talked out of England retirement twice, it is fair to say Kyle Walker is a man with a new lease of international life.

After the European Championship in 2021 and the 2022 World Cup, manager Gareth Southgate had to persuade the Manchester City defender to prolong his career with the Three Lions.

But it seems Southgate will not need to have that sort of chat with 34-year-old Walker when Euro 2024 is over.

In fact, it is clear Walker might even fancy another crack at the Euros when they come to Great Britain and Ireland in 2028.

Walker, who won his first cap against Spain 13 years ago, said: "I want to go as far as I can. To represent my country as many times as I have done… honestly, I never thought I'd do it once, so to do it for the amount of years I've done it, I have to say is a credit to myself.

"But I look at Pepe and he's 41 playing for Portugal. So, they are the levels people are setting now – Luka Modric, people like that.

"These are people carrying on for top teams at a top level for a considerable amount of time. If they can do it, why can't I?"

Real Madrid midfielder Modric turns 39 in less than three months' time and is captaining Croatia in Germany.

Walker is not only the senior man in Southgate's squad, he is now the vice-captain and he is clearly relishing the responsibility around the camp.

Judging by recent performances for City and for his country, Walker – who will win his 85th cap when England play Denmark in Frankfurt this evening – is not slowing down.

He said: "A lot of people do bang on about my age but age is just a number to me. I still feel quick, I still feel strong, I still feel young.

"Even at my age, I still want to learn. I feel the game's adapting all the time and with the youngsters that are coming in, they're showing me different things I can learn from and different techniques. Every day is a learning day – never mind if you're 34 like me or 19 like Kobbie Mainoo.

"Your performances for your club get you into the England fold – and I'm in contention. I still feel great."

GOLDEN OLDIES Modric, 38, is Croatia's captain and Pepe, 41, is still playing in defence for Portugal

Walker's combination with Bukayo Saka on England's right flank was one of the success stories from the win against Serbia on Sunday.

On the other side, though, it seemed like a frustrating night for Walker's City colleague Phil Foden.

But Walker believes the scrutiny of forward Foden is coloured by the fantastic season the 24-year-old produced for the champions, having been crowned the Football Writers' Association's Footballer of the Year after winning his sixth Premier League title.

Walker said: "I don't think one game defines a player. It's a season or a tournament that defines a player.

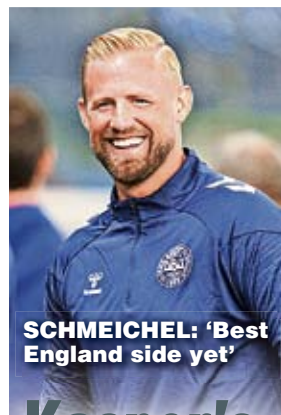
"Especially with Phil coming off the back of the season he had, I don't think one 90 minutes should be scrutinised as much as I'm being told it is.

"Phil is a great character. I wouldn't say he's had a difficult path to get here as he's won a lot of trophies at Manchester City, but he's had to be patient.

"This is just another little thing he has to overcome when there is so much pressure on him now after such a great season.

"Big players have to rise up on big occasions."

■ Follow live updates and analysis from England's showdown with Denmark by visiting express.co.uk/sport/football/1912913/England-vs-Denmark-LIVE-score-updates-Euro-2024

I can keep it up until I'm 41, just like Pepe

SCHMEICHEL: 'Best England side yet'

Kasper's in awe of England

From **Andy Dunn**

DENMARK'S Kasper Schmeichel believes Gareth Southgate has the best team of his eight years as England manager.

The Danes faced the Three Lions in the semi-finals of Euro 2020 and goalkeeper Schmeichel saved Harry Kane's extra-time penalty, only for the captain to turn in the rebound to send England into the final.

Ahead of the Group C clash in Frankfurt tonight, Schmeichel said: "England were a world-class side when we met them – they got to the final of a major championship.

"When you look at some of the additions since and the experience they've picked up, they're a better side now than ever – in the time I've been playing them at least. All over the pitch, they have world-class talent."

Schmeichel insists Denmark are not motivated by revenge.

He said: "I'm not the type of person to be looking back three years for a game to have motivation.

"The biggest motivation factor is we're playing another Euros with Denmark, we should never take that for granted.

"We've got 16,000 of our fans coming and the biggest motivation for me is the image in my head of celebrating with them after a win."

Schmeichel had eight seasons in the Premier League with Leicester, helping them win the title in 2016.

He spent last season at Anderlecht in the Belgian Pro League but is now out of contract, and it is clear he would love to play in England again.

Schmeichel said: "I had a great time and you never know… I might end my career playing in England."

Southgate in dark about UEFA probe

GARETH SOUTHGATE has insisted none of his players heard racist abuse from Serbia fans.

UEFA have launched a probe after one of their crowd spotters identified a Serbia supporter making monkey noises during Sunday's game. The FA did not make a complaint but UEFA have also charged Serbia with displaying an inflammatory Kosovo flag.

Asked whether the FA or the England camp had heard anything untoward, manager Southgate, above, said: "It is not something anybody seems to be aware of from our side."

JOHN CROSS

FIGHTING HELPS GORDON BOX CLEVER

ANTHONY GORDON has revealed that a combination of boxing and chess have helped him break into the England squad.

The Newcastle forward, right, is part of the Three Lions party hoping to win Euro 2024.

Gordon has opened up about the strange sporting mixture that has led to him reaching the highest level for both club and country.

He is also reading New Zealand rugby legend Dan Carter's book 'The Art of Winning: Ten Lessons in Leadership, Purpose and Potential', during downtime in Germany.

Gordon said: "I got into it [boxing] in Liverpool. Everyone in Liverpool likes fighting.

"It makes me more aggressive and play with more tenacity.

"It doesn't work for everyone but that works for me. Before I started boxing I went down a lot and got pushed off the ball. It helped with my aggression and desire to win."

Gordon is also a big chess fan, adding: "It's a life skill because it applies to everything.

"I taught myself. I didn't have a clue how to play it. It's very peaceful. I like the deep thought process because I love to learn."

JEREMY CROSS

NOTHING CAN

Southgate supports Bellingham to step it up another notch

TAKING REINS Kyle Walker working in harness with Bellingham yesterday in training

TEN HAG: Claims England 'sit back'

Gareth is calm over Erik flak

From **John Cross**

GARETH SOUTHGATE says he is not worried about Erik ten Hag's criticism of his tactics.

The Manchester United head coach told Dutch TV during England's win against Serbia that Southgate tends to get a lead, sit back and rely on "moments" rather than trying to dominate.

But the England manager said: "During the course of a tournament there's millions of opinions in different directions.

"While I'm not reading or listening to a thing, you become aware of these things because they get sent to you.

"There was a moment where we weren't in as much control of the game on Sunday as we would've liked, and we felt that was a good moment for Conor Gallagher to come into the game – he did the job.

"There are different moments, flows of games, moments where you're in control and you can push forward, moments where you've got a different problem to solve.

"I accept everyone's going to have different views and I'm really calm about that."

HOLD JUDE BACK

DENMARK V ENGLAND
5PM, BBC ONE
From John Cross in Frankfurt

JUDE BELLINGHAM made a "phenomenal" start to Euro 2024 – and can still get even better.

Gareth Southgate delivered more glowing praise for England's man of the moment ahead of their next Group C showdown with Denmark tonight.

Bellingham, 20, was England's matchwinner against Serbia but his all-round display also marked him down as potentially the biggest star of the whole tournament.

Even after winning La Liga and the Champions League with Real Madrid, Southgate says England's star man is still willing to listen, learn and is "very coachable".

Three Lions manager Southgate said: "He definitely got 90 minutes of running in to 45. The occasion, the emotion, scoring – he had a phenomenal impact on the game.

"We can sit and chat and talk things through so we have got to get the right balance of not losing what he is already bringing, and also can we sew one or two things – as with all the players – that we can refine a bit and get even more.

"That's always the challenge. Top players want to be challenged and need to be challenged as well. I don't think you back away from that. Any top individual in any industry wants to be the best he can possibly be. That's the great thing with him. He's really coachable."

PRAISE: Passing by Alexander-Arnold impressed

Bellingham was front and centre of England's performance against Serbia and if they can secure another victory against Denmark then Southgate's men will be on course to win their group.

But they will face a tougher test against a Danish team still smarting from their semi-final defeat by England at Euro 2020.

With a better quality of opposition also comes a bigger test for the midfield. Ex-England defender Stuart Pearce was positive about the performance and victory against Serbia and picked out Trent Alexander-Arnold for praise.

Pearce even compared Alexander-Arnold's passing range to Glenn Hoddle and Southgate believes the Liverpool star will only get better.

Southgate said: "He's less likely to be a player who dictates tempo than Glenn Hoddle. That's a different type, probably midfield players who have been in there forever and really understand the flow of a game.

"What I do see is that range of passing and that ability to open up a defence that might be blocking spaces, defending low. He's somebody that's going to cause opposition players to be aware that we can play balls in behind them at any point with fantastic accuracy.

"His understanding of the game is good. All the defensive responsibilities we've asked of him, it's not necessarily been where he's played for many years but he's been diligent and open to wanting to take that on board.

"We know it's a work in progress. We know it's something that's going to get a lot of attention as it's not been the norm. But we feel it's something that can add to what we've got."

Southgate also warned England will need to deliver a more complete performance.

The Three Lions overcame Denmark in extra-time to reach the final three years ago and picked up just one point in their two Nations League games against them prior to that.

Southgate added: "Denmark are a good side. Not only in the Euros but the two games in the Nations League were very tough matches for us. We are very aware of that.

"We know there were elements of our game we were really pleased with the other day and elements that have to be better. To play against a team of Denmark's quality all those aspects have to come together to get the win."

SMILE HIGH: Bellingham is still determined to get better

'Exceptional' Foden can be a Euro star

FROM BACK PAGE

job for us on Sunday. Other players grabbed the attention, but the way he worked for the team, defended the spaces, [showed] real intelligence in how he played.

"Towards the end of the game he retained the ball for us in really crucial moments.

"He had a half-chance in the first couple of minutes where with a slightly better touch and a shot on goal we could be talking about something very different.

"He linked the game well in that opening period. There was a lot going on in the game, a lot tactically to solve. We were happy with what Phil did."

Foden covered more ground than any other England player – 13.2km – against Serbia.

Southgate, above, also revealed that he held a team meeting to help "guide players" through the extra scrutiny which comes with playing for England at a major tournament.

It is believed the manager spoke to the whole squad but was aware of the focus on Foden and Trent Alexander-Arnold.

Southgate said: "There's going to be a narrative, a player, a couple of players, after every England game. This is a different world to the one you experience at clubs. The players recognise that now after the last couple of days.

"I have to make sure I can guide them through that, let them understand it and recognise it's the reality of our world but that we shouldn't be thrown off track by it.

"We're in a good position, we know we want to play better. There are a lot of things we did really well."

DAILY EXPRESS SPORT

express.co.uk/sport

ARNE: I WILL SLOT IN AND DO BETTER

By **David Anderson**

ARNE SLOT aims to carry on Jurgen Klopp's fantastic work at Liverpool by eclipsing last season's finish.

Manager Klopp claimed a record 10th Carabao Cup title and finished third in the Premier League on 82 points in his final campaign at Anfield.

His successor Slot, above, said: "We'd all love to see Liverpool a bit higher than third. I've all the confidence in this because of the players."

JURGEN AND PEP INSPIRED ME: PAGE 63

INJURED ANDY'S WIMBLEDON FEAR

MURRAY QUITS QUEEN'S: P62

PHIL FITS THE BILL

Foden's backed to burst into life at Euros

LIMBERING UP: Foden prepares for England's clash with Denmark tonight

FREE INSIDE EUROS PULL-OUT

EURO 2024 ALIVE & KICKING

DENMARK V ENGLAND

From John Cross

GARETH Southgate insists "exceptional" Phil Foden will shine for England at Euro 2024.

Ex-players including Alan Shearer and David Seaman have been queuing up to have their say on Foden after he was outshone by Jude Bellingham against Serbia on Sunday. But England manager Southgate backed the Manchester City star ahead of tonight's clash with Denmark, saying: "Phil did an exceptional

TURN TO PAGE 67, COLUMN 5

HENRY SLADE: I WAS TEMPTED BY FRANCE MOVE

ENGLAND ON TOUR: PAGE 61

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Puzzles

SUDOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, row, and 3x3 square includes all of the digits from one to nine. **Solutions tomorrow**

EASY

		4		2		1		
2	9						7	
7	3	8			4	2		
4			8	5			3	2
		9	1		7	5		
8	7			3	6			9
		7	5			8	4	3
	4				8		5	1
		3		6				

MEDIUM

		1				6		9
5		6		2		7		3
9							1	
	1		7		6	3		
	5	8						4
		3	8		1		5	
	6			8		4		7
8		7		9				1
3		2					6	

DIFFICULT

	9	1		5		3		
	3							1
			8		1			
	2	9				6		7
			9		6			
		6				8	4	
			2		3			
8	6						9	
		3		4		5	1	

QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS
- **1** Ceremony (4)
- **3** Speculators (8)
- **9** Non-professional (7)
- **10** Kind of parrot (5)
- **11** Hymn (4,2,6)
- **13** Niche (6)
- **15** American inventor (6)
- **17** Sea-bird (6-6)
- **20** Military student (5)
- **21** Bandits (7)
- **22** Enrolled (8)
- **23** Drop (4)

DOWN
- **1** Give confidence to (8)
- **2** Coach (5)
- **4** Sudden (6)
- **5** Artillery attacks (12)
- **6** Pleas (7)
- **7** Stitched (4)
- **8** Shows (12)
- **12** Enveloped (8)
- **14** Stronghold (7)
- **16** Past (6)
- **18** Arrive at (5)
- **19** Pain (4)

Solution tomorrow

SMALL CROSSWORD

ACROSS
- **1** In very high spirits (4-1-4)
- **7** Burn (6)
- **9** African country (7)
- **10** Writing implements (4)
- **12** Be incorrect (3)
- **13** Most excellent (7)
- **14** Natural spring (3)
- **15** Abominable snowman (4)
- **17** Chauffeurs (7)
- **19** Motive (6)
- **20** School punishment (9)

DOWN
- **1** Writer of music (8)
- **2** Woodwind instrument (4)
- **3** Automobile (3)
- **4** Cocoa rind (anag.) (9)
- **5** A sport (6)
- **6** Earthy pigment (5)
- **8** Actor, _ Ford (8)
- **11** Thinly spread (6)
- **13** Shopping binge (5)
- **16** Group of three (4)
- **18** Biblical priest (3)

Solution tomorrow

CROSS DOUBT

Target times: Average: **20 mins** Good: **16 mins** Excellent: **12 mins**

Can you make two common five-letter words from the nine letters given, using each letter only once? You can – but only if one letter features in both words in the squares on the right. There's at least one way to do it, and you have to have the right letter at the crossover – but which one is it?

See if you can find the answer within our target time. If you need help, ring our clue-line below to find out the crossover letter. Solution tomorrow

A B C E F I K R T

KAKURO

Fill each sequence of blank squares using the numbers 1-9. Each sequence – across and down – must total the number in the shaded box at the beginning or top of each line. A number may be repeated in each line but NOT in a sequence.

Solution tomorrow

Puzzles

QUIZWORD

ACROSS

7 See 8
8 & 7 Thomas Hardy novel featuring the character Dick Dewy (5,3,9,4)
9 City in Nevada noted as a gambling and divorce centre (4)
10 Will, bootmaker in Harold Brighouse's play Hobson's Choice (6)
12 Dinner jacket named after --- Park, a village and resort in New York (6)
14 2001 Jean-Pierre Jeunet film starring Audrey Tautou in the title role (6)
16 18th-century style of music characterized by extreme use of ornamentation (6)
18 Eldest of Noah's three sons in the Old Testament (4)
20 Schiller poem set to music by Beethoven in the final movement of his 'Choral Symphony' (3,2,3)
22 Machine invented by James Hargreaves in the 18th century that wound yarn onto more than one spindle (8,5)

DOWN

1 Marcus, 2000 world rally champion (8)
2 Ellis, pen name of the writer Edith Pargeter whose novels include Monk's Hood (6)
3 Clark Johnson film starring Colin Farrell and Jeremy Renner (4)
4 CS, author of the 1946 novel Lord Hornblower (8)
5 Tree or shrub of the genus Styrax having hairy leaves and drooping showy white flowers (6)
6 Aphra, author of the 1688 novel Oroonoko (4)
11 Administrative capital of South Africa (8)
13 David, actor whose film roles include Fox Mulder in The X-Files (8)
15 Greg, cyclist who won the 1986 Tour de France (6)
17 Robert, US author whose novels include Gerald's Party and Spanking The Maid (6)
19 A member of a Native American people of north east Arizona (4)
21 Scottish island of the Inner Hebrides south east of Rhum (4)

Solution tomorrow

SAMURAI SUDOKU

In Samurai Sudoku, normal sudoku rules apply, but the 9x9 sudoku at the centre shares four of its 3x3 boxes with those of the outer sudokus.
Solution tomorrow

WORD BUILDER

Answer each clue so that every word contains the same letters as the previous word, plus or minus one.
Solution tomorrow

1 □□□ — 1 Help
2 □□□□ — 2 Dry
3 □□□□□□ — 3 Hydrophobic
4 □□□□□□□ — 4 Exclude
5 □□□□□□ — 5 Poets
6 □□□□ — 6 Dull
7 □□□ — 7 Awful

SUMMIT UP

If the number in each triangle is the sum of the two below, what is the top number?

Solution tomorrow

QUIZWORD

Across: **1** Lyre, **8** Stagecoach, **9** Anguilla, **10** Puck, **12** Blithe, **14** Spirit, **15** Golden, **17** Fleece, **18** Este, **19** Gloxinia, **21** Ritornello, **22** Noah.
Down: **2** Young Lions, **3** Esau, **4** Hadlee, **5** Le Mans, **6** Porpoise, **7** Dhak, **11** Chinchilla, **13** To Die For, **16** Nagano, **17** Frollo, **18** Ebro, **20** Iron.

SAMURAI SUDOKU

2	3	8	5	7	9	1	4	6				1	7	2	5	4	6	8	3	9
4	7	6	1	2	8	9	3	5				3	6	5	1	9	8	4	7	2
1	9	5	4	3	6	8	2	7				9	8	4	7	2	3	1	6	5
5	4	3	7	8	2	6	9	1				8	4	1	6	7	9	2	5	3
9	2	7	6	4	1	5	8	3				6	5	3	2	8	4	9	1	7
6	8	1	3	9	5	4	7	2				2	9	7	3	5	1	6	4	8
7	6	9	2	1	4	3	5	8	2	4	9	7	1	6	8	3	2	5	9	4
8	1	2	9	5	3	7	6	4	3	1	8	5	2	9	4	6	7	3	8	1
3	5	4	8	6	7	2	1	9	6	7	5	4	3	8	9	1	5	7	2	6
						4	2	3	7	9	6	8	5	1						
						9	8	5	1	2	3	6	7	4						
						6	7	1	8	5	4	3	9	2						
7	5	9	6	3	8	1	4	2	5	8	7	9	6	3	1	5	8	4	7	2
8	2	3	7	4	1	5	9	6	4	3	1	2	8	7	6	3	4	5	9	1
6	4	1	9	2	5	8	3	7	9	6	2	1	4	5	9	2	7	3	6	8
1	9	7	8	6	4	2	5	3				8	9	4	2	7	5	1	3	6
4	3	5	2	1	7	9	6	8				3	7	6	4	9	1	8	2	5
2	8	6	3	5	9	4	7	1				5	1	2	3	8	6	9	4	7
3	1	4	5	7	2	6	8	9				7	3	9	8	1	2	6	5	4
5	6	8	1	9	3	7	2	4				4	2	1	5	6	3	7	8	9
9	7	2	4	8	6	3	1	5				6	5	8	7	4	9	2	1	3

SMALL CROSSWORD

Across: **1** Schedule, **8** Peseta, **9** Nerd, **10** Val, **11** Drawer, **13** Superglue, **15** Fedora, **17** Own, **18** Smog, **19** Redact, **20** Carefree.
Down: **1** Sandstorm, **2** Cherub, **3** Hera, **4** Deference, **5** User, **6** Level, **7** Bald eagle, **12** Europe, **14** Panda, **15** Fear, **16** Omar.

ARROW-WORD

Arrow-words are like crosswords, but the clues are printed inside squares on the grid. Write your answers in the blank squares in the direction indicated by the arrows.

Solution tomorrow

Couple / Pictured, _ L. Jackson; Sings with closed lips; Sticky bandage; Roman emperor; Fastener on a cardigan; Steel hand tools; Fit out; Seizes and holds firmly; TV duo, _ & Dec; Ventilate / Eye covering; Country's navy; Artist's stand; Frequently; Landed property; Yelled; Had food / _ line or _ rooms; Something lent / Drives too fast; Perceive / Appendix (abbr.); Fox's tail; Abrade; Before / Opera song; Stitch / 1990 film, Pretty _; Old-fashioned; Flower parts / Curve; Marry; Tractor driver; Lion's cry; Imitate; Governed; Room's lower surface; American state; Move aimlessly / _ Gardner, actress; Pictured, _ Witherspoon; Yield; Angry crowd / Cures; Relaxed and unconcerned; Run against others / Play-acts; Lee Child character, Jack _; Hare-like mammals; Unlocked; Free from moisture; Uncommon; Mineral; Went by boat; Uses money; Young sheep; Speaks formally to; Land measure; Action; Cooked evening meal; Peak of a volcano; Option; Emblem; Water in a frozen state; Synthetic fibre; Rubbed out; Fashion; Book and film, Howards _; Flanks

WORDSEARCH

Z	Z	A	V	D	V	A	N	C	O	U	V	E	R	R
Y	V	B	M	E	L	B	O	U	R	N	E	E	Y	E
H	K	U	A	L	A	L	U	M	P	U	R	T	M	T
H	T	L	Y	H	B	L	E	I	E	T	D	H	S	S
K	D	R	T	I	O	I	G	C	S	H	C	S	E	E
F	I	X	E	N	E	L	R	A	A	R	P	N	V	H
N	B	N	D	P	A	D	O	M	U	R	A	V	S	C
G	O	O	G	S	X	C	I	H	I	B	D	V	Y	N
R	N	T	G	S	D	L	C	N	S	N	I	I	Y	A
S	L	O	N	L	T	T	A	I	B	C	G	E	F	M
A	W	G	O	O	S	O	R	X	T	U	N	H	C	F
Q	W	G	N	I	M	B	N	O	V	D	R	K	A	H
E	Q	C	R	G	C	D	R	M	Y	W	E	G	Z	M
G	A	H	S	L	E	I	E	S	X	B	E	P	H	S
Z	C	J	C	D	A	G	A	U	C	K	L	A	N	D

COMMONWEALTH GAMES HOST CITIES

Find all the terms listed below in the grid.

Solution tomorrow

AUCKLAND ● BIRMINGHAM ● BRISBANE
CARDIFF ● CHRISTCHURCH ● DELHI
EDINBURGH ● EDMONTON ● GLASGOW
GOLD COAST ● HAMILTON ● KINGSTON
KUALA LUMPUR ● LONDON ● MANCHESTER
MELBOURNE ● PERTH ● SYDNEY
VANCOUVER ● VICTORIA

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

QUICK CROSSWORD

Across: 6 Arrival, **7** Astir, **9** Steep, **10** Asperse, **12** Stimulation, **14** Reiteration, **18** Furtive, **19** Sleep, **21** Drill, **22** Asinine.
Down: 1 Brute, **2** Divert, **3** Gay, **4** Aspect, **5** Mission, **8** Isolate, **11** Improve, **13** Require, **15** Tattle, **16** Oblong, **17** Being, **20** Use.

WORDSEARCH

S	I	R	A	P	V	M	L	O	H	K	C	O	T	S
E	T	J	P	M	A	D	R	I	D	M	D	E	S	W
A	M	L	P	R	L	M	J	Z	P	W	P	I	E	T
N	N	O	M	Z	A	I	S	H	E	R	F	Z	R	X
I	T	N	R	O	E	G	S	T	O	A	S	Y	A	E
L	B	E	E	N	S	S	U	B	E	K	I	J	H	K
B	W	G	R	I	C	C	N	E	O	R	X	R	C	I
U	T	A	L	A	V	O	O	W	S	N	D	A	U	I
D	S	H	R	J	L	J	D	W	L	N	G	A	B	K
B	E	N	D	S	J	U	N	K	E	E	K	D	M	N
I	P	E	O	W	A	Y	O	Q	S	U	B	B	I	I
S	A	P	P	K	E	W	L	T	S	C	B	L	F	S
L	D	O	S	T	Y	C	L	Y	U	J	R	G	O	L
J	U	C	B	I	J	I	V	O	R	E	A	F	D	E
P	B	A	E	I	Z	F	V	E	B	U	J	J	X	H

ARROW-WORD

	M		T		R		B		A		J				
N	I	C	O	L	E		R	A	N	G	E				
	S		P		C	R	A	I	G		R				
A	S	S	I	S	T			M	E	S	S				
		K			O	A	R		L	E	E				
U	N	I	F	O	R	M		N	A	V	Y				
	E		O			O	V	A		E		R			D
C	E	L	E	B		N		V	E	N	D	E	T	T	A
		O		A	G	G	R	E	S	S	I	V	E		R
H	A	N	G	A	R		U		P		V		D	E	N
	P	E	A		E	V	E	R	Y	D	A	Y		R	
	E		T	H	A	I		I		R		A	U	R	A
A	X	L	E		S	M	A	L	L	A	R	M	S		F
					E		W	E	E	K		M	A	S	T
				E	P	E	E		P	E	T	E		W	
					A		S	I	P		O	R	D	E	R
				L	I	M	O		A	L	I		O	D	E
					N		M	A	R		L	I	N	E	N
				S	T	Y	E		D	E	S		E	N	T

SUDOKU EASY

2	3	8	6	4	9	5	1	7
1	6	9	3	7	5	4	2	8
5	7	4	2	1	8	6	3	9
3	5	1	7	8	6	2	9	4
4	2	7	5	9	1	3	8	6
8	9	6	4	2	3	7	5	1
6	8	3	9	5	4	1	7	2
9	4	2	1	3	7	8	6	5
7	1	5	8	6	2	9	4	3

SUDOKU MEDIUM

4	8	5	1	6	3	9	7	2
2	7	9	5	4	8	6	1	3
6	3	1	2	7	9	4	5	8
1	5	4	7	2	6	8	3	9
9	2	8	4	3	5	7	6	1
7	6	3	8	9	1	2	4	5
8	1	2	6	5	4	3	9	7
3	4	7	9	1	2	5	8	6
5	9	6	3	8	7	1	2	4

SUDOKU DIFFICULT

9	8	1	6	4	5	3	7	2
6	5	4	3	2	7	9	1	8
7	2	3	9	8	1	4	6	5
8	7	2	5	9	4	1	3	6
4	1	6	7	3	2	5	8	9
5	3	9	8	1	6	7	2	4
3	4	7	2	5	8	6	9	1
2	6	5	1	7	9	8	4	3
1	9	8	4	6	3	2	5	7

BATTLESHIPS

KAKURO

6	1		3	5		1	4
4	2		2	1		4	9
8	9		7	9		3	8
	3	6	9	8	1	2	
		1	4	6	2		
	4	2	8		5	9	6
1	6		5	1		4	1
5	9		6	7		8	2

KEIJO

2	4	1	3
4	2	3	1
3	1	4	2
1	3	2	4

TARGET

OVERPRINT
envoi invert oven over OVERPRINT overt ovine pivot privet prove proven rive riven river rivet rove rover trove vein vent veto vine vino viper vote voter

THE ALPHAPUZZLE

Across: Raider, Chilli, Equally, Noose, Load, Unzip, Broth, Taxi, Trill, Skillet, Fallen, Allure.
Down: Cruelly, Stiff (clue), Titular, Hilly, Jelly, Trolley, Hypnotism, Shindig, Villa, Allow, Callous, Diver, Fifteen.

THE ALPHABEATER

Black squares: 1, 3, 6, 9, 10, 15, 18, 20, 27, 28, 29, 30, 34, 37.
Across: Nuclear, Fusion, Advisor, Boxing, Zipper, Skint, Corgi, Maimed, Levity, Waxbill, Outcry, Zephyrs.
Down: Nears, Scallop, Cavalier, Vote, Splinters, Avow, Drums, Fake, Tutorship, Mini, Inequity, Knights, Jilts.

CROSS DOUBT

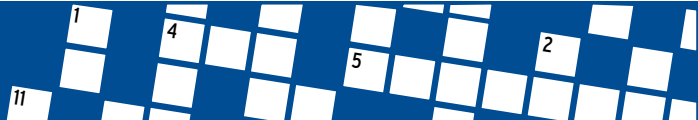
Across: CRAMP
Down: CHILL

SUMMIT UP

60 and 100

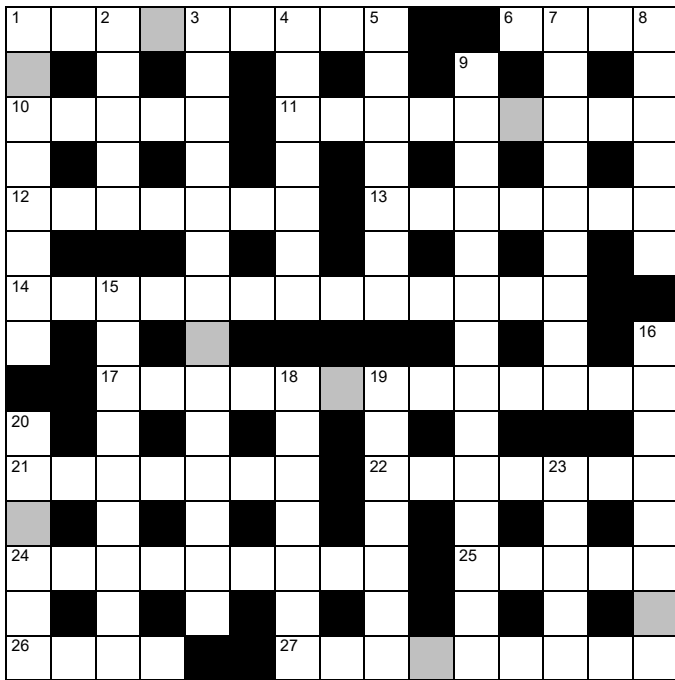
WORD BUILDER

Bar, Bear, Sabre, Blares, Earls, Seal, Lea

Puzzles

CRUSADER PRIZE CROSSWORD

WIN £100 CASH

ACROSS
1 Platform has porridge on list (4,5)
6 When I get a lot of terrain (4)
10 Take in doctor with writing material (5)
11 Great man wasted time on fearsome woman (9)
12 Lanolin creates flaw – too bad (4,3)
13 Fighting arena should include pilot (7)
14 Log wave as the biggest ever (6-7)
17 Let my hardware out in a kind way (4-9)
21 Nowadays learn layout of a gland (7)
22 For every ache treated first for less money (7)
24 Involved with European search for a swimmer (9)
25 Distributed key terribly late (5)
26 Some butter starts to go hard, even emulsify (4)
27 American cinema club puts woman first (9)

DOWN
1 Outer shell makes figure function (8)
2 Money for a large animal (5)
3 Assume tea fork was bent, admittedly (4,3,7)
4 City overturns objection to water container (7)
5 Each reach, sadly, caused pain (7)
7 Ran barracks among variety of reeds (9)
8 Sharp statue design (6)
9 Unpacked a yeast concoction just before Lent (7,7)
15 Bully ordering a cider showing yellow quality (9)
16 Terribly hardy, Edward, when given water (8)
18 Very infernal (7)
19 Local drunk has laugh getting drink (7)
20 Wear out soldier, returning insect (6)
23 Pain, performing on old instrument (5)

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN
Read down the letters in the highlighted squares to reveal the mystery word.

TO ENTER: Call **0904 161 3700** (calls cost £1.50 plus your telephone company's network access charge) and leave your answer and details, or text **DXCRUS** followed by a space, your answer, name and address details to **88833** (texts cost £1.50 plus your standard network rate). Lines close at midnight Saturday. Or send your grid containing the answer in the shaded squares by posting it to: Crusader Crossword, June 20, PO Box 8694, Derby DE1 9TW. Entries must be postmarked by June 21 at the latest. For any postal enquiries, call helpline number. SP: Spoke – 0333 202 3390. An extra day is given for postal entries during bank holidays.

● ***One weekly winner will be the first random correct entry drawn from all entry routes after the closing date of midnight Saturday. Competition runs Sunday to Saturday. The Editor's decision is final.***

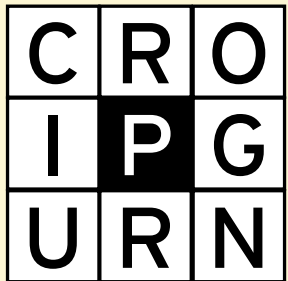
NEED HELP? Call **0904 161 1609** for 5 extra clues! Calls cost £1.50 plus your telephone company's network access charge.

NAME

ADDRESS

POSTCODE

TUESDAY'S SOLUTION
ACROSS: 1 Cage, 3 Contestant, 9 Path, 10 Refraining, 11 Tape measure, 15 Longitude, 17 Choir, 18 Sight, 19 Cathartic, 20 Navel orange, 24 Incinerate, 25 Flan, 26 Pretenders, 27 Tend.
DOWN: 1 Capitalist, 2 Get-up-and-go, 4 Omega, 5 Turbulent, 6 Swivel chair, 7 Akin, 8 Toga, 12 Maintenance, 13 Fontanelle, 14 Dry-cleaned, 16 Uncovered, 21 Later, 22 Wisp, 23 Ache.
Prizeword: Canasta

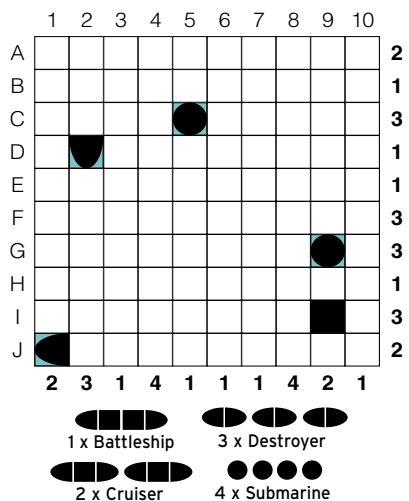
TARGET

● *The Target uses words in the main body of Chambers 21st Century Dictionary (1999 edition)*

HOW many words of four letters or more can you make from the letters shown here?
In making a word, each letter may be used once only. Each must contain the centre letter and there must be at least one nine-letter word. No plurals. Verb forms ending in S permitted.

TODAY'S TARGET
Good 14; **very good** 21; **excellent** 28 **(or more). Solution tomorrow**

Call **0907 181 2585**
for today's Target solution
**Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge.*

BATTLESHIPS

FIND where the fleet of ships shown is hidden in the grid. The numbers to the right of and below the grid indicate how many of the squares in that row are filled in with ships or parts of ships. The ships do not touch each other, even diagonally. Some squares have been filled in to start you off.
Solution tomorrow

THE ALPHABEATER

TARGET TIME: 34 minutes

CAN you crack the Alphabeater? Each grid number represents a letter – or black square. As in Alphapuzzle, every letter of the alphabet is used. But you have to complete the grid too! Use the given letters and black squares below the grid to start. The grid is 'rotationally symmetrical' – in other words, it looks the same if you turn the page upside down.
Solution tomorrow

Extra letter clues
0907 181 2560
(Deduct three minutes for each extra clue letter heard)

Full solution
0907 181 2558
**Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge.*

A B ~~C~~ D E F G ~~H~~ I J K L M N ~~O~~ P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

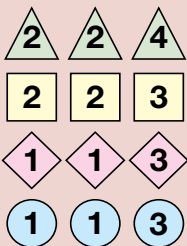
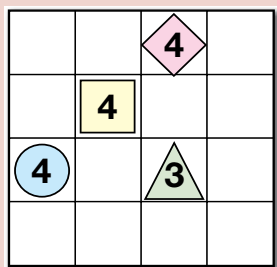
9	29	38	27	19	10	17	25	32	39	7	33	35
15	38	4	13	27	15	37	12	38	19	18	36	19
37	6	36	11	26	35	10	20	32	17	12	10	4
39	34	14	20	26	11	3	32	32	34	24	29	31
36	28	28	7	11	39	8	15	31	13	12	6	12
12	3	4	37	36	19	27	8	23	28	30	13	20
37	10	36	32	13	7	11	14	20	3	28	36	40
14	25	39	31	30	21	34	18	36	18	7	40	23
4	37	25	7	37	17	10	25	24	4	38	34	33
36	2	27	34	11	11	3	24	22	25	39	8	30
20	27	14	30	34	30	1	9	3	24	34	32	10
18	3	16	16	31	14	36	4	24	7	15	11	25
17	18	15	14	37	20	15	5	36	34	1	36	39

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
					H						■								■

21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
								C									O		

● Alternatively, for six Extra Letter clues to your mobile, text **DXBEAT** to **64343.** Texts cost £1 plus standard network rate.

KEIJO

2 2 4
2 2 3
1 1 3
1 1 3

Place the tiles into the grid so that four different numbers and four different shapes appear in each row and column.
Solution tomorrow

THE ALPHAPUZZLE®

Alphapuzzle® tests logic and word power. Each grid number stands for a letter. Every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter or letters – below the main grid – to start. **Solution tomorrow.**
DIFFICULTY: 9/10; **TARGET:** 29 mins; **CLUE:** Trade found on motorway.

A B C D E ~~F~~ G H I J K L M N O P Q ~~R~~ S T U V W X Y Z

22	10	16	15	2	16	3	2	■	■	2	■	■
■	3	■	■	6	■	■	7	18	26	6	24	10
11	1	3	9	12	5	■	8	■	■	12	■	6
■	24	■	■	1	■	24	6	15	10	16	1	3
22	21	6	9	15	■	16	■	■	■	1	■	23
9	■	■	■	24	9	10	5	■	■	4	■	9
20	■	13	9	10	■	16	■	11	16	10	■	15
20	■	16	■	■	16	3	6	16	■	■	■	16
4	■	22	■	■	■	3	■	3	6	11	6	4
9	23	11	6	16	24	19	■	25	■	■	17	■
15	■	9	■	■	1	■	18	1	3	9	16	4
14	7	22	22	9	11	■	■	6	■	■	24	■
■	■	19	■	■	22	1	18	10	4	6	10	5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		R									F	

14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

EXTRA LETTER CLUES: 0907 181 2568*
Hear up to six Extra Letters, deduct two minutes for each clue letter heard.
FULL SOLUTION: **0907 181 2565***
ACROSS ONLY: **0907 181 2561*** / DOWN ONLY: **0907 181 2562***
**Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge.*

Alternatively, for six extra letter clues direct to your mobile, text **DXALPHA** *to* **64343.** *Texts cost £1 plus standard network rate.*

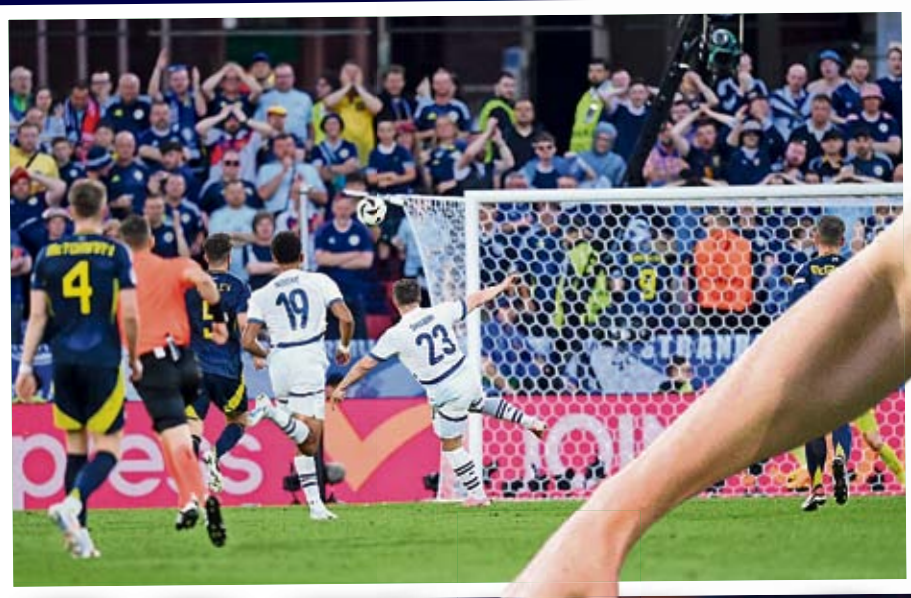
THE DAILY EXPRESS 30-SECOND CHALLENGE

TODAY'S ANSWERS: BEGINNER = 6; INTERMEDIATE = 86; ADVANCED = 230.

EURO 2024

in association with William HILL

SCOTLAND 1
SWITZ'LAND 1

CLARKE'S BOYS BOUNCE BACK WITH SPIRIT: P2-3

ALIVE & KICKING

Mac keeps Scots in the fight

ROAR EMOTION: Scott McTominay celebrates, but Scotland's lead was cancelled out by Xherdan Shaqiri, inset

DAILY EXPRESS

INSIDE

BE LIKE JOHN STONES! Spalletti's orders: P4

KLAUS LEAVES IT LATE Croatia 2 Albania 2: P6

PLATINI DOWNS PORT Rewind to Euro 84: P8

Proudly brought to you by CROWN TRADE

Podcast hosts WES BROWN and NUBAID HAROON discuss all the latest talking points from Euro 2024...

FODEN MUST FIND A WAYNE TO FLOURISH

BY AARON FLANAGAN

PHIL FODEN should take a leaf out of Wayne Rooney's book to become undroppable for England, according to Wes Brown.

Foden, the Premier League player of the season, failed to live up to his Manchester City form when the Three Lions got their Euro 2024 campaign underway with a cagey 1-0 win over Serbia.

He was moved from his favoured No.10 position on to the left wing, with Jude Bellingham taking up the central playmaking role.

And for today's clash with Denmark, former England defender Brown wants to see the 24-year-old change his game so he can work with Bellingham – just as Rooney had to do in his partnership with Cristiano Ronaldo at Manchester United. Speaking on the latest episode of Euro Thrash, Brown said: "Foden has had a fantastic season but he has to get into the game more.

"He has been used to playing in a different position for City this season, and it showed, but that is Jude's position and you can't take Jude out of there.

"I'll give you a good example: Wayne Rooney, wants the ball all the time, but when he was playing with Cristiano Ronaldo, he would start dropping back a little.

"Sometimes players have to be intelligent enough to do that.

"We know what a special player Foden can be, but Jude is special too. Phil's got to go, 'ok, Jude's doing that now, so can I find the positions I have been finding all season for City?'"

GROUP A TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Germany	2	2	0	0	7	1	6
Switzerland	2	1	1	0	4	2	4
Scotland	2	0	1	1	2	6	1
Hungary	2	0	0	2	1	5	0

SCOTLAND		SWITZERLAND
45%	POSSESSION	55%
2	SHOTS ON TARGET	4
4	SHOTS OFF TARGET	6
5	CORNERS	8
0	OFFSIDE	5
11	FOULS	11
0 3	CARDS	2 0

Referee: Ivan Kruzliak

CHEER... SO NEAR
McTominay celebrates his goal (below) and (far right) Hanley is denied by the post

HUNGARY FOR MORE

Steve Clarke's battlers still in it and desperate for victory on Sunday to reach knockout stage

BY **CHARLIE GORDON**

SCOTT McTOMINAY helped Scotland scramble a point against Switzerland and set the stage for a blockbuster Group A finale.

McTominay and Xherdan Shaqiri traded goals in a draw at the RheinEnergieStadion to make Sunday's clash between Scotland and Hungary a straight battle for third place.

Steve Clarke's side were significantly better last night than they were in last Friday's Germany thrashing.

They could have kept all three points if McTominay's early goal had been the difference, but Shaqiri had other ideas.

And, in the end, Scotland can count themselves lucky to leave with a draw after two Switzerland goals were chalked off by VAR.

Scotland finally gave their travelling supporters something to sink their teeth into after the Tartan Army took over the streets of Cologne.

The moment they had been waiting for came when a devastating counter-attack carved Switzerland open.

Billy Gilmour's deft pass started it off, with Andrew Robertson driving half the length of the field and finding Callum McGregor, whose cutback was turned in first time by McTominay.

A meaty deflection off Fabian Schar helped the ball on its way past Yann Sommer, but those dressed in dark blue didn't care a jot.

Having been suffocated by Germany in their opener, Scotland were relishing the opportunity to pass and move under comparatively little pressure.

And it all looked rosy for Clarke's men until Shaqiri pulled a rabbit out of the hat.

Pouncing on a criminal back-pass from Anthony Ralston, former Liverpool man Shaqiri did not even take a touch before bending one into the top corner (below) over the helpless Angus Gunn. It marked a major turning point in the half as, suddenly, the Swiss smelt blood.

A narrow miss from Silvan Widmer was followed by a slick passing move, with Shaqiri at the heart of it and Dan Ndoye forcing a brilliant reflex save from Gunn.

The Scots were briefly in meltdown when, seven minutes after Shaqiri's equaliser, Switzerland found the net a second time.

However, Clarke and his staff were relieved to see the offside flag halt Ndoye's celebration and keep the sides on level terms at the interval.

Struggling for confidence with only one win in the last nine months, it was backs against the wall for Scotland at the start of the second half.

A huge chance for Switzerland went begging when Ndoye skinned McGregor to set up a one-on-one with Gunn, before dragging his shot wide.

And it must have felt like the walls were closing in when, two minutes later, Kieran Tierney succumbed to a serious-looking knee injury.

The Scottish full-back required a stretcher to take him off the pitch, and the hands covering his face suggested that it could be a tournament-ender.

But the Scots refused to shut up shop as Grant Hanley came within inches of restoring their lead with a header that thumped the post shortly after the hour mark (below).

As the match ebbed and flowed, Scotland were again forced to cling on when substitute Breel Embolo raced through on goal.

His dink over Gunn sparked flailing limbs from the Swiss fans, but the offside flag came to Scotland's rescue once again.

Heading into stoppage time, another gilt-edged chance was spurned by Switzerland as Zeki Amdouni headed a free-kick agonisingly wide.

SCOTLAND: Gunn 7, Hendry 6, Hanley 6, Tierney 6 (McKenna 61, 5), Ralston 5, Gilmour 6 (McLean 79), McGregor 6, MOTM Robertson 8, McTominay 7, Adams 6 (Shankland 90+1), McGinn 6 (Christie 90)
SWITZERLAND: Sommer 6, Schar 6, Akanji 6, Rodriguez 5, Widmer 5 (Stergiou 85), Freuler 5 (Sierro 75, 6), Xhaka 6, Aebischer 6, Shaqiri 8 (Embolo 58), Ndoye 7 (Amdouni 85), Vargas 6 (Rieder 75, 6)

NAGELSMANN: NO LET-UP NOW, LET'S WIN IT ALL

FROM **SIMON MULLOCK** in Stuttgart

GERMANY reached for the cruise control in the city that gave the motorcar to the world.

Goals by Jamal Musiala (above) and Ilkay Gundogan lit up the stadium that was once named after the pioneering genius Gottlieb Daimler and sent the high-performance hosts speeding into the last 16.

Hungary made sure it was not quite the gentle ride Julian Nagelsmann's side were given by Scotland in last week's opener, but Germany appear to be a team capable of going up through the gears at any time.

Home fans sang, "Berlin, Berlin, we're going to Berlin" – and Nagelsmann wants to use the feel-good factor that has swept the nation as fuel all the way to the final.

He said: "I won't join in the chants, but the atmosphere is amazing.

"The fans marched past our hotel before the game and that gives us an unbelievable feeling.

"We have seen videos of fans celebrating on the streets of Hamburg – and it moves you.

"The fans will dream. We want to take the people with us. But to do that we must continue to do our job.

"We have qualified for the last 16, but we want to win our final game because we want to win every game in this tournament."

Hungary created chances before and after Musiala's 22nd-minute opener, with Liverpool's Dominik Szoboszlai – their inventive captain – a constant source of danger with his set pieces.

Gundogan got away with a nudge on right-back Attila Fiola – and a subsequent VAR check – in providing Musiala's second goal of the tournament.

German skipper Gundogan (below) then scored the kind of goal, in the 67th minute, that used to be his familiar trademark at Manchester City.

Hungary coach Marco Rossi branded Dutch referee Danny Makkelie a homer.

Rossi said: "Germany are probably favourites to win the Euros, so they don't need help from the referee.

"The referee used double standards.

"He allowed a goal for Germany after a push by Gundogan and then, in the second half, he whistled for a foul against us when the same thing happened.

"Germany would have won anyway – but the referee was the worst on the pitch."

GERMANY		HUNGARY
63%	POSSESSION	37%
6	SHOTS ON TARGET	3
7	SHOTS OFF TARGET	4
11	CORNERS	7
2	OFFSIDE	1
12	FOULS	10
0 2	CARDS	3 0

Referee: Danny Makkelie

WE NEED OUR OWN STONES

Azzurri coach identifies England ace as perfect blueprint for his players

AZZURR-ED ON THE BALL
Spalletti has singled out Stones (below left) as a player for his side to emulate

SPAIN v ITALY
GROUP B: Arena AufSchalke, Gelsenkirchen
TONIGHT, KICK-OFF 8PM (ITV)

BY **MARK JONES**

LUCIANO SPALLETTI had some clear advice for his Italy players ahead of what he is calling one of the biggest games of his career: be like John Stones.

The Azzurri coach was talking tactics ahead of the meeting between two countries who have won three of the last four European Championships.

Holders Italy began their campaign in Germany by going a goal down to Albania after 23 seconds in Dortmund before recovering to win 2-1.

But they go into the meeting of Group B's two big hitters behind Spain in the group on goal difference.

A new-look Spanish side thrilled onlookers in their 3-0 win over Croatia in their first game, with the technical quality of young wingers Nico Williams, 21, and the 16-year-old sensation Lamine Yamal key to the victory in Berlin. When Spalletti was asked if he had options at his disposal who could emulate the Spanish pair for their ability on the ball, the Italy boss used England's Stones as an example of the type of player he wants to see in his squad.

"We have tried to raise the technical ability in the squad," he said.

"Before the tournament I said the slogan, 'We're all No.10s', because these days the full-backs also operate as wingers.

"But it all comes down to your desire to win the ball back and be impeccable defensively.

"John Stones, these days, steps in and plays as a No.10, stepping forward, feeding balls through, finishing off moves when England are attacking.

"So you need to be able to do a bit of everything. The more players you have that can beat opposition players, the better.

"But it's also important to have players who can't be dribbled past. You need to strike the right balance. Based on what we've seen so far, of course, we do need to tweak a few things, but I think we're on the right track."

Italy recovered impressively from going a goal down so early on against Albania and they were ahead within 15 minutes thanks to strikes from Alessandro Bastoni and Nicolo Barella (inset).

A win in Gelsenkirchen would ensure qualification for the last 16, although both sides are likely to advance anyway, and former Roma, Inter Milan and Napoli boss Spalletti is seeing the opportunity as a privilege.

"It is one of the most important matches of my career," he added.

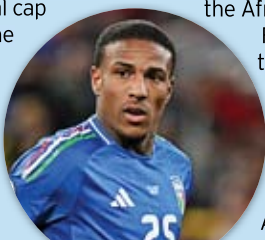
"I've already been through some important games but this is certainly one of those that's right up there.

"We all have a story to tell, and when the players get to my age they will know that. This is one of those matches that could give them a tale to tell in the future."

FOLO LIVING THE DREAM WITH SHOCK CALL

BY **MARK JONES**

AFTER picking up his first competitive international cap on Saturday the sky is the limit for Michael Folorunsho.

The Rome-born midfielder (right) came on in the closing stages of Italy's 2-1 win over Albania in Dortmund, just a few months after he could have been called up by Nigeria for the Africa Cup of Nations.

Folorunsho is contracted to Napoli but has never played for them and, having started the season having never played in Serie A, he finds himself in the Azzurri squad having impressed on loan at Verona. "It was inconceivable 12 months ago," he said. "I don't think I could ever have imagined that a year on I'd be playing at the Euros for my country.

"At the heart of all that there's hard work, I never stopped dreaming.

"But that now drives me forward, because once you get to a certain level, that's when the going gets really tough."

RUIZ LOVES A LAMINE MACHINE

KIDDING AROUND Lamine Yamal trains with his team-mates yesterday

SPAIN: Simon; Carvajal, Le Normand, Nacho, Cucurella; Ruiz, Rodri, Pedri; Yamal, Morata, Williams
ITALY: Donnarumma; Di Lorenzo, Bastoni, Calafiori, Dimarco; Jorginho, Barella; Frattesi, Pellegrini, Chiesa; Scamacca
REF: S Vincic (Slo)
TV: ITV

Teen Yamal dazzles for new-look La Roja

BY **RICHARD LEWIS**

IT IS fast becoming the tournament of the teenagers.

And no one is younger than Spain's Barcelona winger Lamine Yamal.

At 16 years and 338 days, Yamal made history as Spain opened their tournament with a 3-0 defeat of Croatia in Berlin on Saturday.

Yamal (above) became the youngest player in men's Euros history – and just to add to the sense of occasion, it was his assist that led to the third goal.

A player beyond his years – as his team-mate Fabian Ruiz testified ahead of tonight's clash of these giants in Gelsenkirchen.

"We all know what a great player he is," said Ruiz. "He's only 16 but he doesn't show that on the pitch.

"He's extremely direct, he's so good one-on-one and he's very important for us. He's going to be a great option for us to try and win this game."

Spain just have the edge in their head-to-head meetings.

They have won 14, Italy have won 11 with 14 draws, though the Italians have scored one more – 46 to 45.

But stats count for little on these big occasions when it comes to a major tournament.

Defending champions Italy will know the threat La Roja possess from the pace they showed in overcoming Croatia.

And it is not all about fancy footwork either.

Paris St-Germain midfielder Ruiz (right) said: "We still like to have the ball but the coach insists on being a bit more direct now.

"Every time we see an opportunity to get a shot on goal, we try and take it. With Luis de la Fuente, maybe we're seeing that a bit more."

But equally he is aware of the danger of the Italians, who overcame going 1-0 down after 23 seconds against Albania before winning 2-1.

Ruiz added: "They won the last Euro and we know what type of players they have. They compete in every tournament and we know the quality they have.

"It's going to be an even game. They're an intense, aggressive team with a lot of quality players and they like to have a lot of possession, maybe more so than in the past.

"We know Luciano Spalletti is a great coach. He likes to build out from the back, keep possession and press very high.

"Italy will try to pinch the ball, they have some quality footballers; they're an aggressive side who work well on the ball and it will be a very tough match. We need to be focused from the very first whistle."

Ruiz scored the second goal against Croatia just the past the half hour and he is hoping Spain go all the way again to glory.

He said: "We're in an incredible moment. We're going to fight to try to win that trophy on July 14. We're working for that, we're going to try but we will see how it goes."

LUIS IS READY FOR MORE FUEN AND GAMES

BY **DARREN WELLS**

SPAIN boss Luis de la Fuente fears his side will come face to face with their own mirror image when they take on Italy tonight.

The two nations are a place apart in the FIFA world rankings and both kicked off their Euro 2024 campaigns with victory. But it is their showdown in Gelsenkirchen which has been earmarked as the standout clash of the group stage and will likely determine who will head into the knockouts as Group B winners.

De la Fuente (left) said on Italy: "They're very similar to us. They changed their team recently, they've got some young players, and I love how competitive they are.

"They have great individuals and some very experienced players. It's almost like looking in a mirror.

"Spain vs Italy is a classic game, it could very easily be the final. They have great players, a great coach, and a real football culture."

CRISTIANO NOW A POR IMITATION

FROM **MARK JONES**
in Frankfurt

BERNARDO SILVA admits Portugal were better when they called for the cavalry against the Czech Republic as debate over Cristiano Ronaldo's inclusion in the side continues.

Ronaldo, 39, toiled in the torrential Leipzig rain against the Czechs, drawing two fine saves from goalkeeper Jindrich Stanek in the first half but often stifling those in front of him with his lack of movement.

Portugal enjoyed 73 percent of possession but it was not until head coach Roberto Martinez called on Premier League stars Diogo Jota and Pedro Neto and the 21-year-old matchwinner Francisco Conceicao, above, that Portugal began to look more threatening.

Jota thought he had won it for his side when he nodded in from close range late on, only for VAR to detect that Ronaldo was offside, before Conceicao won it in stoppage time.

Manchester City star Bernardo said: "Of course games in these competitions are never easy and we played against a team that gave us great difficulties.

"They defended low in many moments but with a lot of resilience.

"But in the second half, with the changes, we put more players in the area. In the first half there were too few players in the area to finish the chances. Chico [Conceicao], Jota, Neto, when they came in, they especially gave us that."

Bernardo's comments should not be seen as a lack of support for national icon Ronaldo, who was cheered by Portugal fans and jeered by Czech supporters – with chants of 'Messi' aimed in his direction – but they show the issue facing Martinez over starting him at No.9.

The former Wigan and Everton manager insists he is happy with the forward, but such are Portugal's attacking riches that there is a growing feeling they may be better off trying something different.

Euro 2016-winning coach Fernando Santos did just that at the Qatar World Cup, dropping a furious Ronaldo for Paris Saint-Germain forward Goncalo Ramos for the last-16 clash with Switzerland.

Ramos scored a hat-trick in a 6-1 win, with Ronaldo benched again for the 1-0 defeat by Morocco in the last eight. Santos was dismissed five days later.

Martinez publicly backed Ronaldo before the tournament and the former Manchester United man is set to keep his place for the clash with Turkey on Saturday, with ex-Old Trafford team-mate Diogo Dalot confident he will deliver.

"Cristiano is very well, very concentrated," said Dalot. "He's very well physically and he's always ready to score goals."

HAND THE BATON
Ronaldo may no longer be the best option for Portugal

LATE SHOW
Gjasula is mobbed by his team-mates after last-gasp equaliser

GROUP B

CROATIA	Kramaric 74, Gjasula 76 og	2
ALBANIA	Laci 11, Gjasula 90+5	2

BIRTHDAY BOY SICK AFTER KLAUS PARTY

Kramaric left with nothing to celebrate

BY **MIKE WALTERS**

ON a rollicking afternoon offering more entertainment than Hamburg's Reeperbahn itself, Klaus Gjasula became the first substitute to score at both ends in Euros history.

And as Albania's wonderful noise pollution society celebrated an equaliser clocked at 4mins 23secs into stoppage time, Andrej Kramaric's 33rd birthday party fell flat.

The former Leicester striker's 29th international goal should have been the catalyst to jump-start Croatia's Euro 2024 campaign.

But they will need at least a point against Italy on Monday night to survive the group stage, and midfield royalty Luka Modric's body language on the final whistle suggested it is the end of the road for an ageing side, whose run to the 2018 World Cup final is a distant memory.

Kramaric said: "I didn't imagine we would be celebrating my birthday in such a disappointing way.

"It would have been much nicer if we had taken all three points and it was like that until the last seconds.

"We know what's ahead of us now. We always have to solve things the hardest way possible, struggling and fighting until the last second.

"Let it be that way this time, too, and, God willing, we have the luck to advance from this group."

Albania, who shocked Italy after 23 seconds on Saturday and gave Croatia a chasing for 45 minutes, deserve all the plaudits. Their final group match is a daunting task against Spain but Qazim Laci, who gave them another early lead, refuses to be counted out. Laci said: "We are never going to give up and will try our best against Spain. I would consider it as a final."

And Albania coach Sylvinho, the ex-Arsenal full-back, said: "We had opportunities to win the game and, if there had been more minutes, we could have done more."

The only dark note on a sunlit thriller was alleged chants of "Kill, kill the Serb" in a depressing throwback to Balkan sectarianism.

But the football was spicy enough, Laci heading Albania in front after 11 minutes from Jasir Asani's cross, although Croatia goalkeeper Dominik Livakovic's mortgage-style effort to keep it out – going down in instalments – was arthritic.

Livakovic did redeem himself with smothering saves from Kristjan Asllani and Watford flop Rey Manaj as listless Croatia took 50 minutes to register a shot on target.

But two goals in three minutes turned the contest on its head.

Kramaric finally broke Albania's stout resistance, giving goalkeeper Thomas Strakosha the eye and threading his shot through Elseid Hysaj's legs to equalise after 74 minutes.

Then, just 147 seconds later, Gjasula's freakish own-goal from Croatia substitute Ante Budimir's low cross seemed to be ushering the Kuqezinjte – Red and Blacks – towards the exit.

But five minutes into added time, Gjasula redeemed himself by sweeping a cool finish into the corner from 12 yards to send boss Sylvinho charging down the touchline in manic celebration.

CROATIA		ALBANIA
60%	POSSESSION	40%
5	SHOTS ON TARGET	7
8	SHOTS OFF TARGET	2
3	CORNERS	1
0	OFFSIDE	1
15	FOULS	11
0 (red) 1 (yellow)	CARDS	3 (yellow) 0 (red)

Referee: Francois Letexier (FRA)

AL OF A BLOW
Kramaric was gutted after seeing Albania draw level at the end

UEFA EURO 2024 RESULTS

GROUP A
Germany, Scotland, Hungary, Switzerland

GERMANY 5 — Wirtz 20, Musiala 19, Havertz 45+1 pen, Fulljrug 68, Can 90+3
SCOTLAND 1 — Rudiger 87 og

HUNGARY 1 — Varga 66
SWITZERLAND 3 — Duah 12, Aebischer 45, Embolo 90+3

GERMANY 2 — Musiala 22, Gundogan 67
HUNGARY 0

SCOTLAND 1 — McTominay 13
SWITZERLAND 1 — Shaqiri 26

SWITZERLAND ....
GERMANY ....
Frankfurt Arena
SUNDAY JUNE 23, KICK-OFF 8PM (BBC)

SCOTLAND ....
HUNGARY ....
Stuttgart Arena
SUNDAY JUNE 23, KICK-OFF 8PM (BBC)

GROUP B
Spain, Croatia, Italy, Albania

SPAIN 3 — Morata 29, Ruiz 32, Carvajal 45+2
CROATIA 0

ITALY 2 — Bastoni 11, Barella 16
ALBANIA 1 — Bajrami 1

CROATIA 2 — Kramaric 74, Gjasula 76 og
ALBANIA 2 — Laci 11, Gjasula 90+5

SPAIN ....
ITALY ....
Arena AufSchalke
TODAY, KICK-OFF 8PM (ITV)

CROATIA ....
ITALY ....
Leipzig Stadium
MONDAY JUNE 24, KICK-OFF 8PM (BBC)

ALBANIA ....
SPAIN ....
Düsseldorf Arena
MONDAY JUNE 24, KICK-OFF 8PM (BBC)

GROUP C
Slovenia, Serbia, Denmark, England

SLOVENIA 1 — Janza 77
DENMARK 1 — Eriksen 17

SERBIA 0
ENGLAND 1 — Bellingham 13

SLOVENIA ....
SERBIA ....
Munich Football Arena
TODAY, KICK-OFF 2PM (ITV)

DENMARK ....
ENGLAND ....
Frankfurt Arena
TODAY, KICK-OFF 5PM (BBC)

ENGLAND ....
SLOVENIA ....
Cologne Stadium
TUESDAY JUNE 25, KICK-OFF 8PM (ITV)

DENMARK ....
SERBIA ....
Munich Football Arena
TUESDAY JUNE 25, KICK-OFF 8PM (ITV)

GROUP D
Poland, Holland, Austria, France

POLAND 1 — Buksa 16
HOLLAND 2 — Gakpo 29, Weghorst 83

AUSTRIA 0
FRANCE 1 — Wober 38 og

POLAND ....
AUSTRIA ....
Olympiastadion Berlin
FRIDAY JUNE 21, KICK-OFF 5PM (ITV)

HOLLAND ....
FRANCE ....
Leipzig Stadium
FRIDAY JUNE 21, KICK-OFF 8PM (BBC)

HOLLAND ....
AUSTRIA ....
Olympiastadion Berlin
TUESDAY JUNE 25, KICK-OFF 5PM (BBC)

FRANCE ....
POLAND ....
BVB Stadion Dortmund
TUESDAY JUNE 25, KICK-OFF 5PM (BBC)

GROUP E
Belgium, Slovakia, Romania, Ukraine

ROMANIA 3 — Stanciu 29, Marin 53, Dragus 57
UKRAINE 0

BELGIUM 0
SLOVAKIA 1 — Schranz 7

SLOVAKIA ....
UKRAINE ....
Düsseldorf Arena
FRIDAY JUNE 21, KICK-OFF 2PM (BBC)

BELGIUM ....
ROMANIA ....
Cologne Stadium
SATURDAY JUNE 22, KICK-OFF 8PM (ITV)

SLOVAKIA ....
ROMANIA ....
Frankfurt Arena
WEDNESDAY JUNE 26, KICK-OFF 5PM (BBC)

UKRAINE ....
BELGIUM ....
Stuttgart Arena
WEDNESDAY JUNE 26, KICK-OFF 5PM (BBC)

GROUP F
Turkey, Georgia, Portugal, Czech Rep

TURKEY 3 — Muldur 25, Guler 65, Akturkoglu 90+7
GEORGIA 1 — Mikautadze 32

PORTUGAL 2 — Hranac 69 og, Conceicao 90+2
CZECH REP 1 — Provod 62

GEORGIA ....
CZECH REP ....
Volksparkstadion Hamburg
SATURDAY JUNE 22, KICK-OFF 2PM (BBC)

TURKEY ....
PORTUGAL ....
BVB Stadion Dortmund
SATURDAY JUNE 22, KICK-OFF 5PM (ITV)

CZECH REP ....
TURKEY ....
Volksparkstadion Hamburg
WEDNESDAY JUNE 26, KICK-OFF 8PM (ITV)

GEORGIA ....
PORTUGAL ....
Arena AufSchalke
WEDNESDAY JUNE 26, KICK-OFF 8PM (ITV)

GROUP A TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Germany	2	2	0	0	7	1	6
Switzerland	2	1	1	0	4	2	4
Scotland	2	0	1	1	2	6	1
Hungary	2	0	0	2	1	5	0

GROUP B TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Italy	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Albania	2	0	1	1	3	4	1
Croatia	2	0	1	1	2	5	1

GROUP C TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Denmark	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Slovenia	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Serbia	1	0	0	1	0	1	0

GROUP D TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Holland	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
France	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Poland	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Austria	1	0	0	1	0	1	0

GROUP E TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Romania	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Slovakia	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Belgium	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Ukraine	1	0	0	1	0	3	0

GROUP F TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Turkey	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
Portugal	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Czech rep	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Georgia	1	0	0	1	1	3	0

ROUND OF 16

GAME 37 1A V 2C
BVB Stadion Dortmund SATURDAY JUNE 29, KICK-OFF 8PM (Dortmund)

GAME 38 2A V 2B
Olympiastadion Berlin SATURDAY JUNE 29, KICK-OFF 5PM (Berlin)

GAME 39 1B V 3A/D/E/F
Cologne Stadium SUNDAY JUNE 30, KICK-OFF 8PM (Cologne)

GAME 40 1C V 3D/E/F
Arena AufSchalke SUNDAY JUNE 30, KICK-OFF 5PM (Gelsenkirchen)

GAME 41 1F V 3A/B/C
Frankfurt Arena MONDAY JULY 1, KICK-OFF 8PM (Frankfurt)

GAME 42 2D V 2E
Düsseldorf Arena MONDAY JULY 1, KICK-OFF 5PM (Dusseldorf)

GAME 43 1E V 3A/B/C/D
Munich Football Arena TUESDAY JULY 2, KICK-OFF 5PM (Munich)

GAME 44 1D V 2F
Leipzig Stadium TUESDAY JULY 2, KICK-OFF 8PM (Leipzig)

QUARTER-FINALS

GAME 45 W39 V W37
Stuttgart Arena FRIDAY JULY 5, KICK-OFF 5PM (Stuttgart)

GAME 46 W41 V W42
Volksparkstadion Hamburg FRIDAY JULY 5, KICK-OFF 8PM (Hamburg)

GAME 47 W43 V W44
Olympiastadion Berlin SATURDAY JULY 6, KICK-OFF 8PM (Berlin)

GAME 48 W40 V W38
Düsseldorf Arena SATURDAY JULY 6, KICK-OFF 5PM (Düsseldorf)

SEMI-FINALS

GAME 49 W45 V W46
Munich Football Arena TUESDAY JULY 9, KICK-OFF 8PM (Munich)

GAME 50 W47 V W48
BVB Stadion Dortmund WEDNESDAY JULY 10, KICK-OFF 8PM (Dortmund)

FINAL

GAME 51 WINNER 49 V WINNER 50
Olympiastadion Berlin SUNDAY JULY 14, KICK-OFF 8PM (Berlin)

EURO REWIND

BBC legend was awestruck by Platini's dramatic late winner

MAGIC MICHEL LEFT MOTTY SPEECHLESS

HERO OF THE HOUR Platini cannot contain his joy as he runs away to celebrate the 119th-minute goal that took France into the Euro 1984 final

FRANCE 3 PORTUGAL 2

Euro 1984 semi-final: Stade Velodrome, Marseille, Saturday, June 23

PARDON our French but as they stood on the brink of elimination from their own tournament, Les Bleus must have had an impending sense of deja vu.

Two years earlier, across the border in Spain, they were the victims of one of the great football heists of all time at the hands of West Germany.

The famous World Cup semi-final headlines of Harald Schumacher's 'assault' that sent Patrick Battiston to hospital, and the goalkeeper subsequently turning into his side's hero in the penalty shoot-out, had almost overlooked the fact that even without their injured defender, France were 3-1 ahead with 22 minutes of extra-time to play.

After years of living in the shadows of their neighbours, Les Bleus had come that close to a World Cup final only for the Germans to deny them on a night of controversy and drama.

Now, on their own soil in 1984, it was about to happen again. In a game they had dominated, France found themselves 2-1 down, again in extra-time, with six minutes left.

This time, however, their own heroes were about to emerge.

Jean-Francois Domergue had given France the lead before Portugal goalkeeper Manuel Bento kept his side in the game with fine saves from Luis Fernandez, Michel Platini and Alain Giresse.

Rui Jordao headed home with 16 minutes left, against the run of play.

Bento, two days short of his 36th birthday, then performed superbly to foil Platini and Didier Six and the teams went into extra-time. Jordao's second, after 98 minutes, sent a shiver down the spines of the home supporters.

But just as time looked to be running out, Domergue levelled with six minutes to go.

Then came the moment that changed a nation's fortunes.

With penalties one minute away, Jean Tigana got to the byline, pulled the ball back and there was Platini, cool as you like, to control and fire into the net – causing iconic BBC commentator John Motson to almost lose his voice. France went on to beat Spain 2-0 in the final, Platini scoring his ninth goal of the tournament to end up as top scorer. Their fans have since become accustomed to winning major trophies but this was where they exorcised the demons and laid the path for future success.

On that momentous semi-final, Platini said: "We should have been leading 2-0 or 3-0 but they made it 1-1 and then 2-1.

"We got into the last six minutes of extra-time and we had tremendous will to win, especially as Jean Tigana told us he had never won a penalty shoot-out. We knew we had to avoid going to penalties."